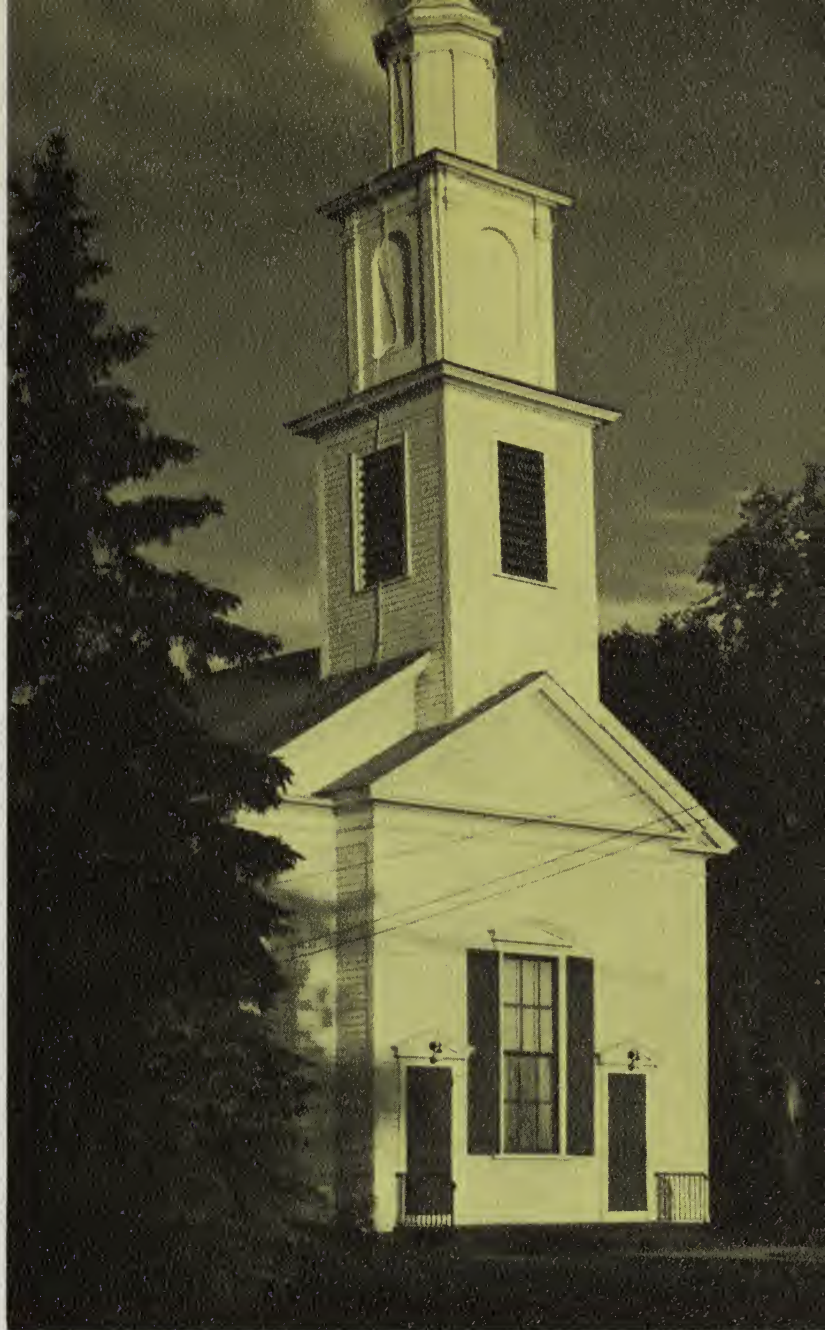


Two Centuries  
of Religious Life  
in Agawam



# ANNUAL REPORT

1963

**AGAWAM**

## FOREWORD

"TWO CENTURIES OF RELIGIOUS LIFE IN AGAWAM"—an inspiring theme for our 1963 Annual Report of the Officers of the Town.

Our churches, four of which were established before the year 1800, have played an important part in our history. Their influence has had much to do with the growth and direction of our town through the development of high moral and ethical standards of our leaders and our people.

The tragic assassination of President John F. Kennedy, gives us cause to reflect, with our maker, the real values of a free society, fashioned under and with God's divine guidance.

Two centuries ago, the First Meeting House accommodated all worshipers, regardless of creed. In more recent years, the church of St. John the Evangelist, used the facilities of the Agawam Congregational Church in the early 1940's. The practice of tolerance among religious creeds, uncommon in our great land, has been responsible for the "togetherness" and great spirit which prevails in our town.

The growth of our religious life has kept pace with the expansion of our population. In recent years, to accommodate the increase in parishioners, additions have been completed to the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, the First Baptist Church, and the Agawam Congregational Church.

New sanctuaries, in the past five years, have been completed by Sacred Heart Catholic and St. David's Episcopal churches.

With the establishment of the Valley Community Church, Agawam's newest religious group (Protestant), our people are afforded a further opportunity for religious worship.

Tribute is justly deserved for the pastors, leaders (the unsung heroes in the development of man), also to their parishioners of these Agawam churches:

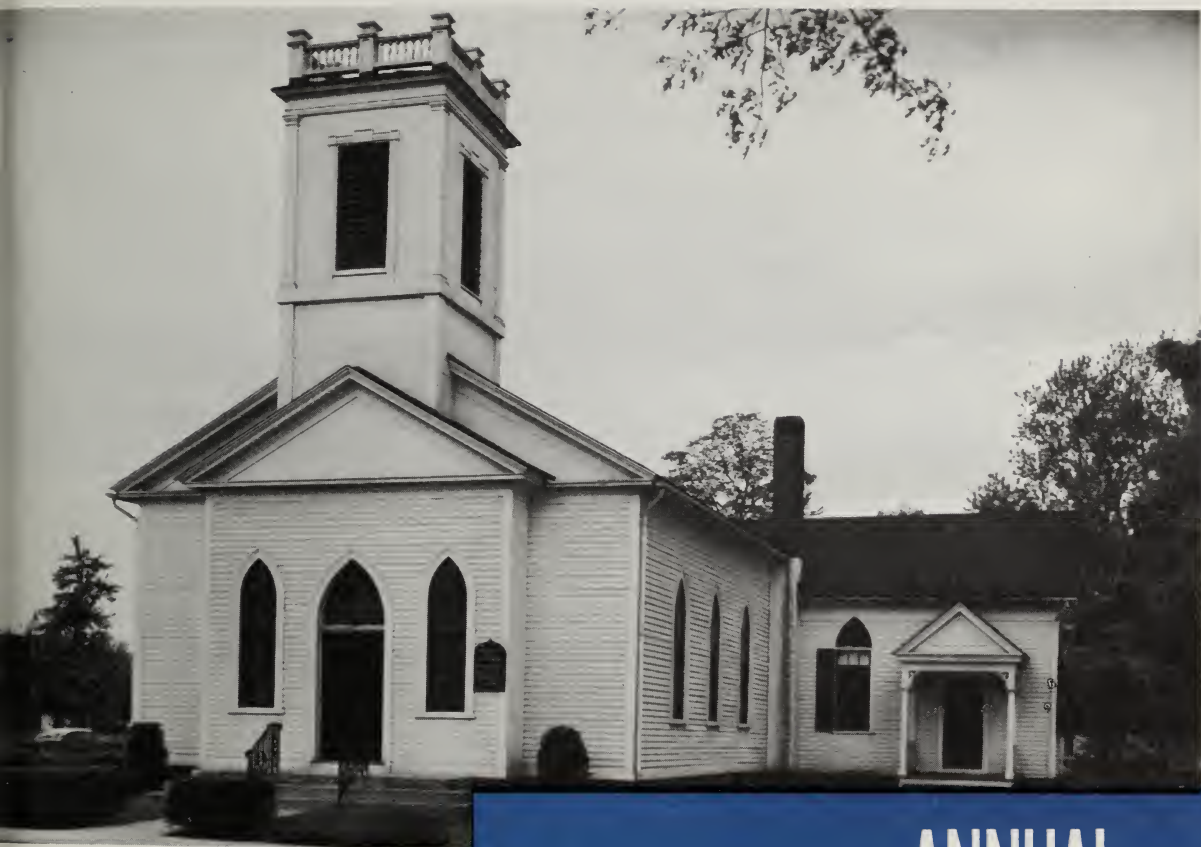
FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL, Feeding Hills  
FIRST BAPTIST OF AGAWAM  
AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL (Picture on front cover)  
LAY MEMORIAL METHODIST, Feeding Hills  
SAINTE THERESE DE L'ENFANT JESUS, North Agawam  
SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA, North Agawam  
SACRED HEART, Feeding Hills (Picture on back cover)  
ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL  
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST  
VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH, Feeding Hills

The Town Report Committee wishes to gratefully acknowledge the efforts of Wadsworth Hine, former member of the committee, who, although having moved from Agawam, has donated his talents by way of the art work, layout and make-up of this and previous reports. Further, we appreciate the photographs generously contributed by many of our townspeople this year, as in the past, and most particularly we thank Charles DuBois Hodges for his efforts in this regard.

HENRY LAWSON, Chairman  
DAVID GALLANO  
VINCENT CAROLEO

FRED EMERSON  
RAY ORR





*First Baptist Church*

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
1963  
AGAWAM**

## Highlights of 1963

Construction started — Sewer Interceptor — Agawam Center  
Completion — Jr. High School Cafeteria  
Addition to Granger School underway  
New — Agawam Motor Lodge  
Purchased land for future school and fire station construction  
Continued growth YMCA — new land donated by Keddy

## As We Look Ahead

Buxton plant addition  
New Post Offices — Agawam and Feeding Hills  
Completion — addition and renovation Legion home  
Future extension — Route 57  
Development — Industrial Park  
New units — Housing for the Aged  
Completion — Lions Club Park

### IN MEMORY

and grateful appreciation for these men  
who have served the Town well:

Elmer F. Bodurtha	August 21, 1963
Armand Foote	November 7, 1963
Lawrence Stone	October 31, 1963



*Granger School Addition*

## **Town Calendar**

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday — Friday  
9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

### **BOARD MEETINGS**

Selectmen — Monday Evenings, 7:00 P.M.  
Planning Board — Second Thursday of Month  
School Committee — Second Tuesday of Month

### **TELEPHONES**

TOWN HALL and SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	ST 1-0400
POLICE	RE 7-4767
FIRE	RE 6-2131

# Elected Town Officers

## MODERATOR

John J. Teahan

## SELECTMEN AND BOARD OF HEALTH

Walter T. Kerr	Raymond E. Charest	Frank Chriscola, Jr.
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## TOWN CLERK AND TREASURER

Brandon N. Letellier

## TOWN COLLECTOR

Margaret E. Ferranti

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

David C. Gallano	1964	Benjamin S. Bassani	1965
Philip J. DeForge	1964	F. Joseph Napolitan	1966
Paul J. Adams	1965	Francis J. Rosso	1966

## BOARD OF ASSESSORS

George L. Reynolds	1965	William M. Bardwell	1964
Francis P. Cleary		1966	

## BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Peter D. Bissell	1964	Donald R. Langevin	1965
Carole E. Denning	1964	Paul M. Begley	1966
Norma Connolly	1965	Harriet S. Keogh	1966

## BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Samuel F. Provo	1964	Joseph J. Sliech, Jr.	1965
Leonard P. Rising		1966	

## CEMETERY COMMISSIONERS

Theodore A. Progulske, Jr.	1964	Richard M. Taylor	1965
Marco Cammisa		1966	

## TRUSTEES OF THE WHITING STREET FUND

Alda Bedard	1964	James A. Crean	1965
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## TREE WARDEN

Elmer Cascio	1966
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## PLANNING BOARD

	Ted E. Dynia (resigned)	1964	
Lawrence J. Scherpa	1965	Wilfred R. Lenville	1967
Ronald C. Balboni	1966	Harold A. Gaffney, Jr.	1968
Carlo Bonavita — elected to fill vacancy			

## PARKS, PLAYGROUND & RECREATION COMMISSION

Vito N. Depalo	1964	Roland Mercadante	1965
Earl H. Freniere, Jr.	1964	Raymond Saracino	1966
James A. O'Keefe, Jr.	1965	Edward G. Borgatti	1966

## AGAWAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

	Francis J. Gensheimer — State Appointee	
Robert Watson, Jr.	1964	Daniel DiDonato
Thomas Patrick Meredith	1965	William E. Vigneaux
		1968



# Appointed Town Officers

## TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Frances M. Pedulla

## CHIEF OF POLICE AND DOG OFFICER

R. Kenneth Grady

## CHIEF OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

Harry W. Schneider

## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Armand V. Foote (deceased)

Donald J. Campbell, Acting

## DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Edith C. Larsen

## VETERANS' ADMINISTRATOR — BURIAL AGENT

David C. Gallano

## SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Measurer of Wood

Public Weigher

Louis D. Draghetti

## GYPSY MOTH SUPERINTENDENT

Dominick Ricco

## BOARD OF HEALTH AGENT

Robert P. Carlson

## BUILDING INSPECTOR

James J. Gloster

## PLUMBING INSPECTOR

George Draghetti

## WIRING INSPECTOR

Alfred Gallerani

## TOWN COUNSEL — TOWN PROSECUTOR

John J. Teahan

## BOARD OF APPEALS

Julio A. Alvigini

Richard W. Toelken

Harold C. Atwater

B. Edward Dahdah

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Leslie J. Moore, Jr.

James G. Gregor

Peter T. McGrady

Santo Cannerella

James J. Elasmarr

William G. Pfau

## REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Alvin R. Kellogg, Jr.

Richard J. Rieker

Louis J. Lovotti

Brandon N. Letellier

## DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE

Arthur Zavarella

## BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

Charles Calabrese, Chairman

Ernest Hall

William Carroll

William Brezinski

Albert Christopher

Harold Fullam

David Gallano

Joseph Sliech, Jr.

Carlo Bonavita

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Roland Reed, Chairman

Thomas Cascio

Leroy Fournier

William R. Chiba

Willis Shaylor

Anthony DiDonato

George Fleming

# **Town Directory**

Incorporated May 17, 1855

Population 1960 Census — 15,718

## **UNITED STATES SENATORS**

LEVERETT SALTONSTALL of Newton

EDWARD M. KENNEDY of Boston

## **REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS**

Second Congressional District

EDWARD P. BOLAND of Springfield

## **COUNCILOR**

Eighth District

RAYMOND F. SULLIVAN of Springfield

## **STATE SENATOR**

Hampden, Berkshire District

GEORGE D. HAMMOND of Westfield

## **REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT**

Eleventh Hampden District

JAMES C. CORCORAN, JR. of West Springfield

GEORGE W. PORTER of Agawam

## **ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION**

First Tuesday after Third Monday in November

## **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

Third Saturday in February



## Board of Selectmen

The Connecticut River Interceptor Sewer is in its last construction phases, and will be completed and operating in the near future. Upon the completion of this, our Interceptor Sewer Program will be 100% complete in the removal of pollution from the rivers. As you know, this has been accomplished under the accelerated program whereby approximately a 50% reimbursement of the cost comes from the Federal and State Governments.

Our sewer program is progressing and we hope in the near future to have completed the survey at the South end of Agawam to the Connecticut Line. We also hope to be able to accomplish the installation of sewers, drainage and water in the Industrial Park Area, which is vitally important and needed to bring industry to our Town.

One of the most urgent needs of our Town is the installation of proper drainage and sewer systems. It is the feeling of this Board that a survey should be made of the entire Town and plans made and a program set up whereby this problem can be solved as soon as possible. The Board is definitely conscious of these needs and would appreciate the help and cooperation of the residents and the departments in coordinating their efforts to bring these two problems of drainage and sewers to a quick solution.

The Water Survey Study is progressing and nearly completed and a report should be forth-coming in the near future. We are strongly in need of larger water mains for the health and safety of our residents. The ever increasing population — residential, business and industry — all have put a strain on our facilities, namely water, sewer and drainage.

We sincerely hope to improve these conditions in the near future and will make every effort possible to accomplish this, and with your help and cooperation, we know this can be accomplished.

The passing of our Superintendent of Public Works, Armand V. Foote, has been a great loss to the Town as well as this Board. We will all miss his cheery 'Hello there'.

We would like to thank all the employees and residents for their splendid cooperation in 1963.

*St. Anthony of Padua Church*



# Town Accountant

## RECEIPTS GENERAL REVENUE

### Taxes:

Current Year .....	\$2,119,770.85	
Previous Years .....	139,684.16	
		<hr/>
		\$2,259,455.01
In Lieu of Taxes .....		3,606.75
Tax Titles .....	2,290.82	
Tax Possessions .....	955.00	
		<hr/>
		3,245.82

### From State:

Income Tax .....	73,473.54	
Income Tax — School Aid .....	155,859.66	
High School Transportation .....	80,874.60	
Aid to Libraries .....	3,929.50	
Corporation Tax — Business .....	67,263.26	
Meal Tax — O.A.A. ....	3,518.28	
Reimbursement — Loss of Taxes .....	10,970.02	
State Tax — Admin. ....	183.37	
		<hr/>
		396,072.23

### Licenses and Permits:

Liquors .....	17,545.00	
All Other .....	5,251.00	
		<hr/>
		22,796.00

Fines — District Court .....	1,091.80
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### Grants and Gifts:

#### From Federal Government:

Aid to Dependent Children .....	23,169.40	
Disability Assistance .....	5,938.32	
Old Age Assistance .....	48,874.42	
Medical Aid to Aged .....	26,902.03	
National Defense Education Act .....	1,294.59	
Interceptor Sewers .....	123,575.00	
Hughes-Barden School .....	875.00	
		<hr/>
		230,628.76

#### From State:

School Building Assistance — 1962 .....	18,018.25	
School Building Assistance .....	104,121.35	
Vocational Education .....	10,074.80	
Tuition & Transp. — State Wards .....	1,107.85	
		<hr/>
		133,322.25

#### From County:

Dog Licenses .....	2,404.35
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### Privileges:

Motor Vehicle Excise

Current Year .....	285,980.16	
Previous Years .....	57,708.33	
		<hr/>
		343,688.49
Farm Animal Excise .....		224.24
Special Assessments:		
Sidewalk .....	54.57	
Sewers .....	3,052.45	
		<hr/>
		3,107.02
Assessments Paid In Advance .....		2,409.26

#### DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE

General Government .....		5,817.75
Protection of Persons and Property .....		555.05
Health and Sanitation:		
Sewer Connections .....	9,480.00	
All Other .....	3,037.50	
		<hr/>
		12,517.50
Highways:		
From State — Chapter 90 .....	4,999.64	
From County — Chapter 90 .....	5,429.28	
From Individuals .....	115.25	
		<hr/>
		10,544.17
Charities:		
Welfare:		
From State .....	2,437.17	
From Cities and Towns .....	1,438.42	
Aid to Dependent Children:		
From State .....	12,780.17	
Disability Assistance:		
From State .....	4,923.80	
Old Age Assistance:		
From State .....	18,935.12	
From Cities and Towns .....	332.65	
Medical Aid to Aged — State .....	20,111.33	
		<hr/>
		60,958.66
Veterans' Benefits:		
From State .....	10,268.74	
Other .....	1,055.73	
		<hr/>
		11,324.47
Schools:		
Tuition .....	288.00	
All Other .....	1,674.78	
		<hr/>
		1,962.78
Adult Education .....		1,111.00
School Lunch .....		179,953.41
School Athletics .....		8,559.58
Library Fines .....		594.41

Recreation .....	320.38
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### UNCLASSIFIED

Rents .....	154.00
Housing Authority .....	1,584.00
Petty Cash Advances .....	967.00
	<hr/>
	2,705.00

### PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISES

Water:	
Rates .....	179,758.10
Liens .....	6,281.84
Connections and Deposits .....	8,220.00
Miscellaneous .....	5,332.33
	<hr/>
	199,592.27

### INTEREST

Deferred Taxes .....	4,554.00
Special Assessments .....	619.30
Library and Cemetery Funds .....	1,930.50
	<hr/>
	7,103.80

### LOANS

Temporary .....	1,075,000.00
Sewer .....	250,000.00
	<hr/>
	1,325,000.00

### AGENCY, TRUST AND INVESTMENT

Beverages Licenses for State .....	10.00
Dog Licenses for County .....	3,391.75
Planning and Appeals Boards .....	718.72
Old Age, etc, Recoveries .....	4,041.61
Contributory Retirement .....	37,665.18
Federal Taxes .....	277,608.69
State Taxes .....	25,674.25
Blue Cross .....	28,401.94
Life Insurance .....	3,803.13
U. S. Savings Bonds .....	2,082.01
Credit Union .....	116,131.44
	<hr/>
	499,528.72

### REFUNDS AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Departmental .....	5,782.64
Life Insurance Dividend .....	1,018.00
Dog Damages from County .....	17.00
Workmen's Compensation .....	334.00
State Tax .....	6,265.83
	<hr/>
	13,417.47

TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	<hr/>
	\$5,743,618.40





# Town Accountant

## APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

	Balance Jan. 1, 1963	Appro- priations	Additions	Available	Expen- ditures	Balance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Moderator .....		25.00		25.00	25.00	
Personnel Board .....		275.00		275.00	60.54	214.46
Selectmen — Salaries .....		3,700.00		3,700.00	3,700.00	
Secretary .....		5,356.00		5,356.00	5,356.00	
Other .....		1,465.00		1,465.00	977.39	487.61
Town Accountant — Salary .....		5,876.00		5,876.00	5,876.00	
Jr. Accountant .....		4,108.00		4,108.00	4,108.00	
Other .....		1,277.00		1,277.00	1,211.64	65.36
Out of State Travel .....		100.00		100.00	96.90	3.10
Town Clerk & Treasurer — Salary .....		7,600.00		7,600.00	7,600.00	
Clerical .....		7,072.00		7,072.00	7,043.00	29.00
Other .....		3,450.00		3,450.00	2,554.81	895.19
Town Collector — Salary .....		5,876.00		5,876.00	5,876.00	
Principal Clerk .....		4,472.00		4,472.00	4,472.00	
Clerical .....		3,752.00		3,752.00	3,294.90	457.10
Other .....		4,485.00		4,485.00	3,913.17	571.83
Assessors — Salaries .....		7,100.00		7,100.00	7,100.00	
Principal Clerk .....		4,472.00		4,472.00	4,472.00	
Clerical .....		5,296.00		5,296.00	3,796.00	1,500.00
Other .....		2,200.00		2,200.00	1,760.14	439.86
Graphotype Machine .....		2,100.00		2,100.00	1,967.93	132.07
Law — Town Counsel .....		3,000.00		3,000.00	3,000.00	
Town Prosecutor .....		1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00	
Other .....		800.00		800.00	590.28	209.72
Appraisals .....		1,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00
Election & Registration — Salaries .....		750.00		750.00	750.00	
Election Officers .....		2,700.00		2,700.00	1,930.61	769.39
Listing of Persons .....		1,000.00		1,000.00	900.00	100.00
Other .....		1,100.00	696.83	1,796.83	1,796.83	



Administration Building .....					
Custodian — Salary .....	14.83			3,810.83	166.40
Clerk .....	460.00			3,164.00	2,997.60
Telephone Operator .....				1,872.00	1,144.00
New Telephone System .....				1,200.00	1,089.87
Fuel, Light and Telephone .....	911.93			6,671.93	110.13
Other .....				3,597.00	1,757.73
Other Town Buildings .....				463.00	447.69
Police — Chief Salary .....	288.50			7,568.50	
Salaries .....	500.00			146,849.00	256.53
Uniforms .....				2,000.00	69.30
Out of State Travel .....				100.00	92.00
Safety Officer .....				250.00	.52
New Cruisers .....				9,000.00	7,759.22
School Traffic Officers .....				5,520.00	5,298.82
Other .....	1,027.35			12,237.35	12,061.61
Dog Law .....				300.00	277.89
Fire — Chief Salary .....	300.04			7,580.04	7,580.04
Salaries .....	5,130.00			144,229.00	143,832.89
Equipment .....				2,600.00	2,550.88
Out of State Travel .....				100.00	100.00
Uniforms .....				200.00	139.58
Repairs — American LaFrance Truck ..	1,000.00			5,000.00	4,968.25
Other .....	1,300.00			9,577.00	9,001.90
Sealer — Salary .....				2,300.00	2,300.00
Other .....				775.00	655.45
Building Inspector — Salary .....				5,876.00	5,876.00
Other .....				1,095.00	1,045.30
Electrical Inspector — Salary .....				1,700.00	1,700.00
Other .....				425.00	360.80
Forestry — Tree Warden .....				1,200.00	1,200.00
Labor .....				4,600.00	4,582.25
Equipment Rentals .....				2,500.00	2,495.00
Tree Planting .....				2,000.00	1,992.00
Spraying .....				1,150.00	1,135.00

## APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

	Balance Jan. 1, 1963	Appro- priations	Additions	Available	Expen- ditures	Balance
Dutch Elm .....		500.00		500.00	500.00	
Other .....		150.00		150.00	64.00	86.00
Gypsy Moth .....		500.00		500.00	500.00	
Health — Agent Salary .....		5,876.00		5,876.00	5,876.00	
Clerk .....		3,354.00		3,354.00	2,750.22	603.78
Nurses' Salaries .....		10,912.00	128.00	11,040.00	11,040.00	
Other .....		4,995.00		4,995.00	4,582.80	412.20
Hospitals, etc. ....		3,500.00		3,500.00	1,909.85	1,590.15
Mosquito Control .....		2,700.00		2,700.00	2,010.96	689.04
New Car — Nurses .....		1,580.00		1,580.00	1,579.50	.50
Plumbing — Labor .....		1,700.00	500.00	2,200.00	1,893.00	307.00
Other .....		125.00		125.00	92.99	32.01
Slaughter & Animal Inspections .....		966.00		966.00	966.00	
Garbage Collection .....		20,500.00		20,500.00	20,500.00	
Rubbish Collection .....		32,600.00		32,600.00	32,538.17	61.83
Sewer Maintenance .....		39,650.00	2,077.00	41,727.00	40,943.74	783.26
Dump Site Facilities .....	1,621.00			1,621.00	1,621.00	
Interceptor Sewer Plans .....	582.64			582.64		582.64
Conn. River Interceptor Sewer .....	44,429.42			44,429.42	44,429.42	
Meadow St. — Alhambra Sewer .....	1,891.30			1,891.30		1,891.30
Adams St. Sewer & Lift Station .....	1,884.21			1,884.21	1,884.21	
Ramah Circle North Drain .....	7,500.00			7,500.00	5,481.80	2,018.20
Silver St. Sanitary Sewer — 1961 .....	253.09			253.09	253.09	
Springfield & Columbus St. Sewers .....	2,655.99			2,655.99	2,655.99	
Suffield St. Surface Drain .....	287.85			287.85	287.85	
Shoemaker Lane Sanitary Sewer .....	4,633.38			4,633.38	4,633.38	
So. Main St. Sanitary Sewer .....	4,258.52			4,258.52	4,077.05	181.47
Westford Circle Sanitary Sewer .....	350.21			350.21	350.21	
George St. Sanitary Sewer .....	167.71			167.71	167.71	
Reed St. Sanitary Sewer .....		5,900.00		5,900.00	5,898.93	1.07
So. Westfield St. Sewer .....		40,500.00		40,500.00	25,797.57	14,702.43



Highland St. Storm Sewer .....	2,700.00		2,700.00	2,699.14	.86
Lincoln St. Drain .....	1,800.00		1,800.00	1,29.00	1,671.00
D.P.W. — Superintendent .....	8,632.00		8,632.00	7,802.00	830.00
Clerical .....	7,176.00		7,176.00	7,314.00	
Administration Other .....	900.00		900.00	870.25	29.75
Out of State Travel .....	150.00		150.00		150.00
Highway Maintenance .....	55,700.00		59,224.21	58,445.72	778.49
Road Machinery .....	20,500.00		22,500.00	22,284.74	215.26
D.P.W. — Police Salaries .....	2,000.00		2,000.00	1,755.60	244.40
Sidewalk Maintenance .....	3,000.00		3,000.00	2,999.09	.91
Snow Removal .....	46,000.00		46,000.00	45,899.56	100.44
Snow Removal Emergency .....			1,240.83	1,240.83	
New Construction, Reconstruction .....	25,000.00		25,000.00	24,683.33	316.67
Engineering — Salaries .....	20,100.00		21,923.33	21,923.33	
Other .....	850.00		850.00	702.08	147.92
D.P.W. — Dump Truck .....	5,300.00		5,300.00	4,728.73	571.27
Pick-up Truck .....			1,595.00	1,595.00	
Pick-up Truck .....	1,800.00		1,800.00	1,695.00	105.00
2 Sanders .....	4,200.00		4,200.00	3,744.00	456.00
Line Painter .....	1,400.00		1,400.00	1,295.00	105.00
Stone Box .....	1,600.00		1,600.00	1,584.50	15.50
Street Lights .....	900.00		80,000.00	77,205.82	2,794.18
Rip-Rap Westfield River .....	900.00		900.00	900.00	
Chapter 90 Construction — 1959 .....	3.73		3.73		3.73
Chapter 90 Construction — 1960 .....	81.67		81.67	81.67	
Chapter 90 Construction — 1961 .....	10,769.18		10,769.18	337.72	10,431.46
Chapter 90 Construction — 1962 .....	3,063.86		3,063.86	3,063.86	.06
Chapter 90 Construction — 1963 .....			34,000.00	4,530.26	29,469.74
Chapter 90 Maintenance — 1963 .....			15,000.00	15,000.00	
Mittineague Bridge Repairs .....			17,000.00	17,000.00	
So. West St. Resurface — 1961 .....	114.57		114.57	114.57	
So. West St. Resurface — 1962 .....	186.45		186.45	186.45	
Main St. Sidewalk .....	2,119.38		2,119.38	2,119.38	
No. Westfield St. Sidewalk .....			14,000.00	7,157.42	6,842.58
U. S. Grant — D. C. Assistance .....	14,688.15		18,132.35	18,864.76	13,955.74

## APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

	Balance Jan. 1, 1963	Appro- priations	Additions	Available	Expen- ditures	Balance
Dependent Children Administration .....	2,695.85		5,839.03	8,534.88	3,383.34	5,151.54
Disability Assistance .....	1,395.86		5,182.20	6,578.06	3,995.53	2,582.53
Disability Administration .....	944.53		795.32	1,739.85	315.56	1,424.29
Old Age Assistance .....	43,898.50		44,632.25	88,530.75	43,035.64	45,495.11
Old Age Administration .....	2,760.92		4,601.42	7,362.34	6,145.41	1,216.93
Medical Aid to Aged .....	11,455.60		25,211.85	36,667.45	18,404.70	18,262.75
Medical Aid Administration .....	866.71		2,133.30	3,000.01	1,465.00	1,535.01
Welfare — Salaries .....		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00	
Other .....		100.00		100.00	61.76	38.24
Relief .....		15,000.00		15,000.00	11,610.67	3,389.33
Town — Dependent Children Assistance ..		14,000.00		14,000.00	14,000.00	
Dependent Children Administration .....		1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00	
Disability Assistance .....		8,000.00		8,000.00	8,000.00	
Disability Administration .....		500.00		500.00	500.00	
Old Age Assistance .....		23,000.00		23,000.00	22,533.09	466.91
Old Age Administration .....		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00	
Medical Aid to Aged .....		35,000.00		35,000.00	35,000.00	
Medical Aid Administration .....		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,500.00	
Veterans' Benefits .....		21,000.00	9,695.49	30,695.49	30,695.49	
District Assessment .....			6,852.23	6,852.23	6,852.23	
Schools — Salaries, Operating .....		1,497,165.00		1,497,165.00	1,470,310.36	26,854.64
Fuel, Light .....		62,500.00		62,500.00	62,420.19	79.81
Transportation .....		111,000.00		111,000.00	106,997.10	4,002.90
Out of State Travel .....		800.00		800.00	280.08	519.92
Hughes-Barden Fund .....			875.00	875.00	500.00	375.00
National Defense Education Act .....	13,228.66		1,294.59	14,523.25	7,921.57	6,601.68
Land Purchase — Main & Reed .....	1,875.00			1,875.00		1,875.00
Land Taking — School .....	6,400.00			6,400.00	700.00	5,700.00
New Cafeteria — Jr. High .....	18,907.21			18,907.21	18,907.21	
Cafeteria Committee .....	195.84			195.84		195.84
Granger School Addition .....		8,000.00		8,000.00	3,133.31	4,866.69

Committee and Plans .....	10,000.00	1,111.00	10,000.00	9,481.26	518.74
Adult Evening School .....		1,111.00	1,111.00		1,111.00
School Lunch .....	11,992.97	179,953.41	191,946.38	180,748.49	11,197.89
School Athletics .....	744.93	8,559.58	9,304.51	8,452.71	851.80
Library — Chief Librarian .....			5,876.00	5,444.00	432.00
Salaries .....			2,650.00	2,650.00	
Fuel and Light .....			750.00	684.87	65.13
Mileage .....			250.00	65.92	184.08
Other .....			2,412.00	4,815.47	.88
Parks & Playgrounds — Salaries .....		2,404.35	4,816.35	9,730.54	463.46
Other .....			10,194.00	9,118.93	461.07
Tractor .....			9,580.00	3,498.50	1.50
Damages to Persons & Property .....			3,500.00	1,205.60	294.40
World War I Barracks Rent .....		1,000.00	1,500.00	597.00	3.00
Widow's Annuity .....			600.00	600.00	
Printing Zoning By-Laws .....	293.61	293.61	293.61	293.61	
Zoning By-Law Revision .....			472.50	324.72	293.61
Planning Board Master Plan .....	472.50	1,257.44	1,257.44	1,257.44	147.78
Regional Planning Assessment .....			1,485.82	1,485.82	
Previous Years Bills .....		621.78	2,921.78	2,921.58	.20
Town Reports .....			100.00	12.43	87.57
Finance Expense .....			236.00	236.00	
Safety Council of Western Mass. ....			500.00	96.58	403.42
Business Development Commission .....			25,000.00	24,992.84	7.16
Reserve Fund .....			400.00		400.00
Foreclosure of Tax Titles .....			28,500.00	28,212.26	386.40
Group Insurance and Hospitalization .....		98.66	28,598.66		100.00
Council for Aging .....			100.00		.60
Non-Contributory Retirement .....		103.00	4,327.00	4,326.40	
Contributory Retirement — Town .....			45,394.00	45,394.00	.90
Surety Bonds .....			798.00	797.10	
Town Vehicle Insurance .....		691.90	5,869.90	5,869.90	
Liability Insurance .....			10,000.00	9,131.86	868.14
Memorial Day .....			635.00	604.89	30.11
County Aid to Agriculture .....			100.00	100.00	

## APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES

	Balance Jan. 1, 1963	Appro- priations	Additions	Available	Expen- ditures	Balance
Conservation Committee .....		300.00		300.00	39.25	260.75
Easement — Elbert Road .....	2.00			2.00		2.00
Land Taking — Heirs D. Crowley .....	150.00			150.00		150.00
Land Taking — Maynard St. ....	1.00			1.00		1.00
Land Taking — School and Fire .....		39,500.00		39,500.00		39,500.00
Civil Defense — Administration .....	.11	1,000.00		1,000.11	999.61	.50
Other .....	20.38	2,700.00	170.00	2,890.38	2,889.70	.68
Radio Frequency Equipment .....	9,221.00			9,221.00	9,221.00	
Planning Board .....		500.00		500.00	375.22	124.78
Board of Appeals .....		600.00		600.00	204.41	395.59
Water — Contract .....		69,000.00		69,000.00	63,708.39	5,291.61
Construction .....		3,000.00		3,000.00	2,999.59	.41
All Other .....		51,650.00	2,500.00	54,150.00	51,570.73	2,579.27
James St. — Main .....	1,382.30			1,382.30	1,382.30	
Riverview Ave. — Main .....	862.88			862.88		862.88
Orchard St. — Main .....		1,800.00		1,800.00	1,768.84	31.16
Prospect St. — Main .....		6,500.00		6,500.00	6,485.90	14.10
Liberty St. — Main .....		11,100.00		11,100.00	11,099.01	.99
Cemetery — Maintenance .....		790.00		790.00	624.30	165.70
Rebuilding Cemeteries .....		425.00		425.00		425.00
Veterans' Graves .....		234.00		234.00	234.00	
Interest — Debt .....		77,929.00	1,249.75	79,178.75	79,178.75	
Revenue Loans .....		10,000.00		10,000.00	6,637.66	3,362.34
Debt .....		300,000.00		300,000.00	300,000.00	
NON-REVENUE						
Shea's Field Elementary School .....	2,006.23			2,006.23		2,006.23
Springfield & Suffield St. Drain .....	22,522.85			22,522.85	223.77	22,299.08
Conn. River Interceptor Sewer .....	10,320.58		373,575.00	383,895.58	353,481.67	30,413.91
High School Addition .....	3,470.05			3,470.05		3,470.05
New Cafeteria — Jr. High .....	165,000.00			165,000.00	163,543.62	1,456.38
TOTALS	\$ 435,530.38	\$3,575,756.82	\$ 723,490.36	\$4,734,777.56	\$4,349,284.85	\$ 385,492.71



# TOWN OF AGAWAM BALANCE SHEET — DECEMBER 31, 1963

## ASSETS

Cash — Revenue .....	\$	\$566,798.11
Treasurer's Recovery — Due .....		500.00
Accounts Receivable:		
Taxes:		
Levy of 1958 .....		1,120.00
Personal Property .....		
Levy of 1959 .....		385.20
Personal Property .....		
Levy of 1960 .....		1,822.53
Personal Property .....		
Levy of 1961 .....		
Poll .....	28.00	
Personal Property .....	3,734.60	
Real Estate .....	1,694.30	
Levy of 1962 .....		5,456.90
Poll .....	224.00	
Personal Property .....	4,766.68	
Real Estate .....	4,975.86	
Levy of 1963 .....		9,966.54
Poll .....	446.00	
Personal Property .....	13,468.75	
Real Estate .....	120,123.32	
Motor Vehicle & Trailer Excise:		134,038.07
Levy of 1958 .....	147.25	
Levy of 1959 .....	3,278.99	
Levy of 1960 .....	4,960.57	

## LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

Payroll Deductions:			
Blue Cross .....		\$	105.74
Group Life Insurance .....			471.01
Savings Bonds .....			272.33
Tailings .....			849.08
County Dog Licenses .....			341.20
Water Connection Deposits .....			12.25
Planning Board Deposits .....			100.00
Board of Appeals Deposits .....			43.58
Medical Aid to Aged Recovery .....			46.40
Disability Assistance Recovery .....			602.70
Trust Fund Income:			1,167.68
Phelon Library .....	96.32		
Old Cemetery .....	251.33		
Feeding Hills Cemetery General Care .....	61.57		
Feeding Hills — Perpetual Care .....	108.79		
Maple Grove Cemetery .....	474.49		
Lydia Roberts — Cemetery Care .....	82.15		
Federal Grants:			1,074.65
Old Age Assistance .....	45,495.11		
Old Age Administration .....	1,216.93		
Dependent Children — Aid .....	13,955.74		
Dependent Children — Administration .....	5,151.54		
Disability Assistance .....	2,582.53		
Disability Administration .....	1,424.29		
Medical Aid to Aged — Aid .....	18,262.75		
Medical Aid to Aged — Admin. ....	1,535.01		

## ASSETS

Levy of 1961 .....	5,154.86
Levy of 1962 .....	12,360.07
Levy of 1963 .....	69,024.26
<b>Farm Animal Excise:</b>	
Levy of 1963 .....	
<b>Special Assessments:</b>	
Apport. Sewer Added to 1962 Tax .....	35.95
Apport. Sewer Added to 1963 Tax .....	262.80
Committed Interest — 1962 Tax .....	8.46
Committed Interest — 1963 Tax .....	64.47
<b>Tax Titles .....</b>	<b>18,550.72</b>
<b>Tax Possessions .....</b>	<b>2,074.74</b>
<b>Departmental:</b>	
Sewer .....	835.00
Health .....	477.00
Highway .....	66.45
Welfare .....	251.84
Aid to Dependent Children .....	2,772.14
Old Age Assistance .....	753.93
Veterans' Benefits .....	5,571.09
School .....	779.16
<b>Water:</b>	
Rates .....	31,576.12
Miscellaneous .....	2,248.38
Liens — Added to Tax 1961 .....	37.39
Liens — Added to Tax 1962 .....	92.49
Liens — Added to Tax 1963 .....	963.68
<b>Aid to Highways:</b>	
State .....	39,000.00

## LIABILITIES AND RESERVES

National Defense Education Act .....	6,601.68
Hughs-Barden School .....	375.00
<b>Unexpended Appropriation Balances:</b>	
New Telephone System .....	110.13
Interceptor Sewer Plans .....	582.64
Meadow St. — Alhambra Sewer .....	1,891.30
Ramah Circle North Drain .....	2,018.20
So. Main St. Sanitary Sewer .....	181.47
So. Westfield Sanitary Sewer .....	14,702.43
Lincoln St. Drain .....	1,671.00
Chapter 90 Construction 1959 .....	3.73
Chapter 90 Construction 1961 .....	10,431.46
Chapter 90 Construction 1963 .....	29,469.74
Mittineague Bridge Repairs .....	17,000.00
No. Westfield St. Sidewalk .....	6,842.58
Land Purchase — Main and Reed .....	1,875.00
Land Taking — School .....	5,700.00
Jr. High Cafeteria Committee .....	195.84
Granger School Addition .....	4,866.69
Preliminary Plans and Committee .....	518.74
Adult Evening School .....	1,111.00
Zoning By-Law Revision .....	293.61
Planning Board Master Plans .....	147.78
Group Insurance and Hospitalization .....	386.40
Easement — Elbert Road .....	2.00
Land Taking — Heirs Crowley .....	150.00
Land Taking — Maynard St. .....	1.00
Land Taking — School and Fire .....	39,500.00
Civil Defense — Administration .....	.50
Civil Defense — All Other .....	.68
Water Meter — Line St. .....	2,500.00
Water Main — Riverview Ave. ....	862.88
Water Main — Orchard St. ....	31.16

96,600.58

County .....	22,000.00		Water Main — Prospect St. ....	14.10	143,062.06
Chap. 782 Funds Due .....		61,000.00			
Underestimates 1963: .....		17,000.00	Revolving Funds:		
State Park and Reservations .....	896.96		School Lunch .....	11,197.89	
County Tax .....	964.39		School Athletics .....	851.80	
T.B. Hospital .....	560.40				12,049.69
		2,421.75	Overlay Surplus .....		25,500.67
Loans Authorized .....		340,000.00	Overlay Reserved for Abatements:		
Revenue 1964 .....		1,240.83	Levy of 1958 .....	251.20	
			Levy of 1959 .....	385.20	
			Levy of 1960 .....	11,290.56	
			Levy of 1961 .....	24,207.65	
			Levy of 1962 .....	32,581.29	
			Levy of 1963 .....	29,496.84	
					98,212.74
			Revenue Reserved Until Collected:		
			Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise .....	94,926.00	
			Farm Animal Excise .....	80.75	
			Tax Title and Possession .....	20,625.46	
			Special Assessment .....	371.68	
			Departmental .....	11,506.61	
			Water .....	34,918.06	
			Aid to Highways .....	61,000.00	
					223,428.56
			Loans Authorized and Unissued .....		340,000.00
			Surplus Revenue .....		361,086.65
		\$1,304,178.49			\$1,304,178.49

NON-REVENUE		LIABILITIES AND RESERVES	
ASSETS			
Cash .....		New Elementary School — Shea's Field .....	\$ 2,006.23
	\$ 59,645.65	Drain — Springfield and Suffield Sts. ....	22,299.08
	\$ 59,645.65	High School Addition .....	3,470.05
		Conn. River Interceptor Sewer .....	30,413.91
		Jr. High School Cafeteria .....	1,456.38
			<hr/>
			\$ 59,645.65
			<hr/>
DEFERRED REVENUE			
Apportioned Sewer Assessment Revenue Not Due .....	\$ 10,579.05	Apportioned Sewer Assessments Due 1964-1982 .....	\$ 10,579.05
Apportioned Sidewalk Assessment Revenue Not Due .....	61.52	Apportioned Sidewalk Assessments Due 1964-1965 .....	61.52
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$ 10,640.57		\$ 10,640.57
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Burd Manufacturing Co., Inc.





## Town Clerk and Treasurer

In terms of dollar volume the work load of these offices continues to grow at a pace that a few short years ago would have seemed, at mere mention of such figures, as imagination of "the wildest sort" by even planners of long range outlook. The total cash turnover exceeded \$6,615,000. which represents an almost exact doubling of the figure for the year of 1960. The detail coupled with the handling of such diverse receipts that go to make the total of this amount can well be pictured by all, not to mention the disbursements that go out for payrolls, and bills payable.

Also serving to keep things humming are the changes in the laws enacted almost weekly by the state legislature and more infrequently by our own town meetings. Enactment of new statutes and town by-laws, their dates and subject matter used to be a problem of relatively easy recall, but with the volume and complexity increasing each year, instead of being able to "pick them out of the air," so to speak, it now involves time consuming research. If those seeking information will continue to bear with us, we will strive, as always, to provide the requested material in as short a time as possible, office work load and available personnel being taken into consideration.

We approach in 1964, once again, the fearsome task involved in a "Presidential Election Year." Not only will we have to contend with four (4) elections but we will also be squarely up against the many changes in the election laws as enacted in 1963 which were only brushed lightly in the town election held this past November. The examination of Absentee Ballot applications, affidavits and return envelopes and counting of the votes therein, amending precinct clerks records to reflect same were touched upon in the recent election and will be increased many fold in the coming year, plus the many other changes which take effect as of January 1, 1964 including, at long last, a provision which will allow a person moving into this state from another state jurisdiction the opportunity to vote for Presidential Electors by special ballot. While we welcome this legislation as another advancement in guaranteeing all citizens their right of franchise in the selection of President and Vice President, by way of Presidential Electors, the paperwork involved will be voluminous. As an aid to our coping with this additional workload, if new residents coming into Agawam from another state asks about voter registration I would ask you to please have them contact my office at their earliest opportunity. This might serve to keep any individual from being disappointed in attempting to secure the right to vote when the closing period for applications has passed. The right to cast a ballot is a precious right and is rightfully of great concern to most citizens.

The pace of the town's debt structure has slackened a bit in recent years and while it continues to grow from year to year we are also retiring maturing debt, however slowly. For the optimistic, a five year look will show a reduction of \$504,000. or 1/6 of the present municipal debt, while a ten year look will reflect a reduction of \$2,179,000., or 2/3 of the present total. The problem of school construction will be on hand for some time to come, but we have passed (and survived) the frantic building rush of the early post war years and have time for a more liesurely look when the question arises for the need on new construction. We

are fully financed for all interceptor sewer construction and will be free of its debt in the five year cycle.

I list below a small sampling of other happenings for this office in the year drawing to a close.

BIRTHS — recorded through November 30, 1963 .....	266
MARRIAGE Licenses issued in the Town in 1963 .....	174
DEATHS of Agawam residents in 1963 .....	135
Financial Statements recorded in 1963 .....	476
Business Certificates issued in 1963 .....	43
Recording Fees received in 1963 .....	\$2,697.15
Sporting Licenses issued for 1963 .....	1901
Fees Received .....	\$8,624.05
Dog Licenses issued in 1963	
Male .....	760
Female .....	162
Spayed .....	568
Transfers .....	2
Kennel Licenses issued for 1963 .....	22
	<hr/>
	1492

Fees Received ..... \$3,760.00

*Old Storrowton Church Where Valley Community Church Meets*



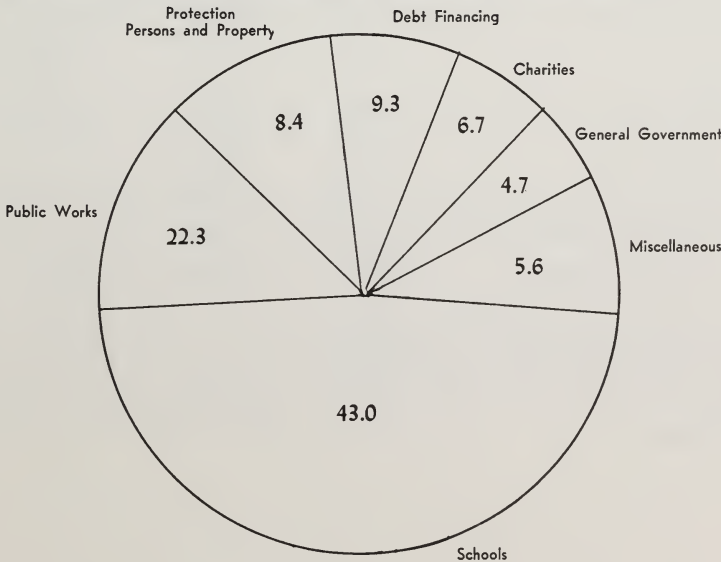
# Municipal Indebtedness

Purpose of Loan	Year Issued	Rate	Date of Retirement	Yearly Prin. Payment	Outstanding
<b>INSIDE DEBT LIMIT</b>					
Feeding Hills School Extension .....	1949	2%	2-1969	\$20,000.00	\$119,000.00
South St. Elem. School .....	1956	2.60	7-1974	15,000.00	130,000.00
Robinson Park School .....	1959	3.80	7-1979	20,000.00	320,000.00
Westfield River Intercep. Sewer Bond	1959	3.30	11-1964	35,000.00	35,000.00
Springfield Storm Drain .....	1961	3.10	5-1971	25,000.00	165,000.00
High School Addition .....	1961	3.10	5-1981	15,000.00	260,009.00
Jr. High Cafeteria Addition .....	1962	2%	11-1967	25,000.00	100,000.00
Conn. River Interceptor Sewer .....	1963	2.20	7-1968	50,000.00	250,000.00
<b>OUTSIDE DEBT LIMIT</b>					
Benjamin J. Phelps School .....	1952	1.70	2-1972	10,000.00	90,000.00
New High School .....	1954	2¼%	2-1974	105,000.00	1,155,000.00
South St. Elem. School .....	1956	2.60	7-1973	15,000.00	135,000.00
Robinson Park School .....	1959	3.80	7-1979	15,000.00	205,000.00

## TRUST FUNDS

Whiting Street Worthy Poor Fund Securities and Savings Bank Deposits .....	\$ 5,595.00
Desire A. Payne Fund Securities .....	2,000.00
Mary E. Phelon School Fund Securities and Savings Bank Deposits .....	4,225.93
Mary E. Phelon Library Fund Securities .....	500.00
Old Cemetery Fund Savings Bank Deposits .....	700.00
Maple Grove Cemetery Fund Savings Bank Deposits .....	1,405.79
Old Cemetery Ass'n. of Feeding Hills Fund Savings Bank Deposits .....	280.00
Feeding Hills Old Cemetery Association Fund .....	160.00
Faolin M. Peirce Fund Securities .....	20,106.72
Clara H. Williams Nursing Scholarship .....	500.00

## How Your Tax Dollar Was Spent





# Town Collector

	Committed and Refunds	Collected	Abate- ments	Out- standing 1-1-1964
<b>TAXES:</b>				
Levies of 1963	2,678,351.49			
Refunds	9,173.45	2,405,891.49	76,604.67	
Tax Titles			1,885.70	203,143.08
Previous Years	255,387.42			
Refunds	3,066.05	197,440.58	16,360.08	44,652.81
<b>WATER RATES:</b>				
	218,340.78		1,275.04	
Refunds	30.99	179,758.10	**5,762.51	31,576.12
Miscellaneous Billings	7,730.04	5,332.33	149.33	2,248.38
Water Connections	4,670.00	4,670.00		
Water Liens				
Added to 1963 Taxes	5,762.51			
Refunds	83.40	4,814.90		
Tax Titles			67.33	963.68
Previous Years	1,596.62	1,466.74		129.88
<b>DEPARTMENTAL ACCOUNTS:</b>				
Sewer Connections	9,480.00			
Refunds	210.00	9,480.00	210.00	
Sewer Acc./Rec.	1,995.00			
Refunds	260.00	900.00	520.00	835.00
Health and Sanitation	2,145.00	1,668.00		477.00
School	1,067.16	288.00		779.16
Veterans'	16,895.56	11,324.47		5,571.09
Welfare	4,127.43	3,875.59		251.84
Old Age Assistance				
Cities and Towns	1,086.58		332.65	753.93
State	17,992.24	17,992.24		
Aid to Dependent Children	15,552.31	12,780.17		2,772.14
Disability Assistance	4,158.95	4,158.95		
Medical Aid for Aged	17,489.02	17,489.02		
Municipal Liens	198.00	198.00		
<b>APPORTIONED SEWER:</b>				
Added to 1963 Taxes	2,107.64	1,839.84		
Tax Titles			5.00	262.80
Committed Interest	525.84	459.97		
Tax Titles			1.40	64.47
Added to 1962 Taxes	453.58	379.96	37.67	35.95
Committed Interest	232.46	123.80	100.20	8.46
Added to 1961 Taxes	33.54	33.54		
Committed Interest	4.79	4.79		
APPORTIONED SIDEWALK	43.82	43.82		
UNAPPORTIONED SEWER	1,537.26	760.83	238.73	
			**537.70	
UNAPPORTIONED SIDEWALK	2,983.32			
Refunds	346.14		3,329.46	
Apportioned Sewer Pain in Adv.	2,409.26	2,409.26		

\*\*Deferred Revenue



## Board of Assessors

Statistics found elsewhere on these pages depict, to some degree, a composite resume of the activity of the Assessors' Department for the year 1963. There has been growth in both scope and intensity of real estate development during the year. We, without hesitation, question the strength of this growth when it is related to town expenditures.

What about 1964? What can the taxpayer expect his tax future to be as it relates to his income and expenses? One small group can anticipate some tax sunshine. We refer to those of our group who have reached the age of 70, have owned real estate in Massachusetts for the preceeding ten years, whose 1963 income did not exceed \$4,000, and whose real estate holdings do not exceed \$14,000 of assessed value. This, in essence, is a law long overdue and designed to exempt, at least in part, those who have paid so faithfully their contribution for these many years.

For those apart from this group who seek tax relief and at the same time wish to spend and enjoy within moderation, the problem becomes profound. There is one solid way to confront this burden of taxation. May we offer this explanation. Your "tax bill" is a matter of multiplication. Assessment times rate per thousand gives you the result. In a simple multiplication example, if you increase the multiplicand you can decrease the multiplier to get the same product. The product is the money we need to supply the services of this town. We wouldn't suggest you "cut" this item. What we do suggest is improvement and development of the multiplicand, the assessed value, so to speak.

"How?" you may ask, "can this be done?"

1. By holding our gains.
2. By strict enforcement of rules already set forth in zoning by-laws.
3. By suppressing over development, in numbers, of business establishments not geared for future progress. Gas stations, and the like, fall in this category.
4. By a satisfied group of tax payers who are proud of the town's management.
5. By being ready to offer newcomers available business land, properly zoned, with adequate facilities installed, and an attitude that would make them feel they had been with us for years.

Space doesn't allow further comment but suffice it to say that a willing Agawam has the potential of relative tax relief if they, as a group and as individuals, will strive to put only their best foot forward in an ardent endeavor to increase the town's assessed value.

# ASSESSOR'S STATISTICAL REPORT 1963

Number of Horses Assessed .....	116
Number of Cows Assessed .....	127
Number of Neat Cattle Assessed .....	7
Number of Swine Assessed .....	4
Number of Fowls Assessed .....	16,930
All Other Livestock Assessed .....	801

Total Number of Livestock Assessed .....	17,985
Value of Assessed Stock in Trade .....	900,890.00
Value of Assessed Machinery .....	1,092,285.00
Value of Assessed Livestock .....	10,900.00
Value of All Other Tangible Property Assessed .....	850,695.00

Total value of all Personal Property Assessed .....	2,854,770.00
Number of Dwelling Houses Assessed .....	4,366
Number of Acres of Land Assessed .....	12,300
Number of Motor Vehicles and Trailers Assessed .....	10,183
Number of 1962 Motor Vehicles and Trailers Assessed in 1963 .....	803
Value of Motor Vehicles and Trailers .....	6,828,335.00
Value of 1962 Motor Vehicles and Trailers Assessed in 1963 .....	645,550.00
Excise Tax Assessed on Motor Vehicles and Trailers .....	384,557.06
Excise Tax Assessed on 1962 Motor Vehicles and Trailers Assessed in 1963 .....	11,345.80

## VALUATIONS

Value of Buildings Assessed .....	\$25,788,895.00
Value of Land Assessed .....	3,976,270.00

Total Value of Real Estate .....	\$29,765,165.00
Value of Personal Estate .....	2,854,770.00

Total Value of All Assessed Estate .....	\$32,619,935.00
(upon which taxes have been levied as follows)	
County Tax .....	38,763.21
Tuberculosis Hospital Assessment .....	999.96
State Parks and Reservations .....	7,272.00
State Audit of Municipal Accounts .....	23.24
Town Appropriation .....	3,668,839.80
Veterans' Service District .....	6,852.23
Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning District .....	1,257.44
Overlay of Current Year .....	73,423.34

\$ 3,797,431.22

## LESS ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

Income Tax .....	236,723.97
Corporation Taxes .....	64,481.57
Reimbursement on Account of Publicly Owned Land .....	10,970.02
Old Age Tax (Meals) Ch. 64B S.10 .....	3,331.45
Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise .....	330,000.00
Licenses .....	22,000.00
Fines .....	3,000.00
Special Assessments .....	4,200.00
General Government .....	6,200.00

Protection of Persons and Property .....	600.00		
Health and Sanitation .....	10,000.00		
Charities .....	19,000.00		
Old Age Assistance .....	37,000.00		
Veterans' Service .....	14,000.00		
Schools .....	99,500.00		
Libraries .....	250.00		
Recreation .....	200.00		
Public Service Enterprises (such as Water Dept.) .....	180,000.00		
Interest on Taxes and Assessments .....	4,500.00		
State Assistance for School Constr. Chapt. 645 Acts of 1948 .....	104,121.35		
Farm Animal Excise .....	250.00		
Housing Authority .....	1,550.00		
In Lieu of Taxes (City of Spfld.) .....	3,500.00		
<b>Total Estimated Receipts .....</b>	<b>1,155,378.36</b>		
Over Estimated 1962 .....			
County Tax .....	769.59		
State Recreation Area .....	698.12		
Amounts Voted from Available Funds .....			
June 1, 1962 .....	451.80		
October 26, 1962 .....	104,650.02		
November 28, 1962 .....	54,750.90		
March 5, 1963 .....	27,573.51		
March 5, 1963 .....	160,316.37	347,741.70	1,504,587.77
<b>Net Amount to be raised by Taxation .....</b>			<b>\$ 2,292,843.45</b>
Number of Polls 4,724 @ \$2.00 .....	9,448.00		
Value of Personal Property \$2,854,770 @ \$70.00 .....	199,833.90		
Value of Real Estate \$29,765,165 @ \$70.00 .....	2,083,561.55		
			<b>\$ 2,292,843.45</b>

St. John the Evangelist Church





## **Department of Public Works**

The Department suffered a great loss this past November in the death of Supt. Armand V. Foote. Mr. Foote came to Agawam in September of 1961 and during the two years he served as Superintendent, he made many friends and was a great asset to the Department.

Immediately upon his death, the Board of Selectmen appointed Edward J. Bayon from the Firm of Tighe & Bond Inc., as consultant to the Dept. of Public Works and with the capable assistance of Donald J. Campbell, General Foreman, the Department is functioning well until such time as the Board of Selectmen appoint another Superintendent.

### **HIGHWAY SECTION:**

During the year, 20 streets were resurfaced namely: Royal Street, Randall Street, Homestead Street, Hall Street, Greenacre Lane, a section of Moore Street and Senator Avenue, Liberty Street, Highland Street, part of Silver Street, Pine Street, No. Westfield Street, Maple Street, Bridge Street, part of Elm Street at Birchill Road, South Park Terrace, Mill Street from Suffield Street to Perry Lane, Sunnyslope Avenue, Riverview Street and Woodcliff Avenue. All school crosswalks were painted throughout the Town prior to school opening. Brush was cut at all intersections where traffic hazards existed. Sidewalks were repaired where necessary. The North Westfield Street sidewalk is presently under construction. However, the work has been stopped for the winter and will be resumed when weather permits.

### **WATER SECTION:**

6" water lines were installed on Liberty Street, Orchard Street and Prospect Street. 150 water meters were installed or replaced. 72 water connections were made and 53 water lines were renewed and 41 water breaks were repaired. 457 miscellaneous water complaints were serviced. Meters are being read throughout the Town twice a year and estimated twice a year. This system was established to enable the meter men to work on other water projects during the summer construction period. Any resident who does not wish to have their bills estimated may call or send in their meter reading into the Public Works office.

The Selectmen's application for an advance of funds to the Housing & Home Finance Agency of the U. S. Government to finance engineering studies relative to improving our water supply and distribution system was approved in early September. Tighe & Bond, our Engineering Consultants, are presently carrying out the study. The study includes an investigation for a new ground water source for the Town's supply. Test boring was under way at the close of the year.

### **SEWER SECTION:**

A section of the Reed Street sanitary sewer was replaced by town forces. The South Westfield Street sanitary sewer is under construction and is being done under contract. A sanitary sewer was installed on Prospect Street by town forces. An appropriation was made at the Annual Town Meeting to install surface drainage on Lincoln Street. This work was not done because the Town was unable to obtain the necessary easements to do this work. Surface drainage was installed on Highland Street by town forces.



The Connecticut River Interceptor sewer is now under construction and is approximately 85% complete. This project is being done under the Federal Public Works Acceleration program and federal funds are defraying approximately one-half of the \$600,000.00 cost. This sewer will intercept all the sewage formerly discharged into the Connecticut River along River Road. There will be two pumping stations located on River Road in connection with this project. This will make a total of six pumping stations in the Town and it will be necessary to have a permanent maintenance man to service these six pumping stations at all times. All storm drains throughout the Town should be cleaned out but because of our limited manpower we have not been able to accomplish this important project.

#### **SNOW REMOVAL — RUBBISH — GARBAGE:**

The snow removal operations have been running very smoothly. Definite routes have been established and put in operation for every storm. With the establishment of these snow routes the Town roads have been kept open regardless of the severity of the storms.

The rubbish schedule is working out very well on a two week basis. The sanitary landfill dump is operating successfully and the Mass. Dept. of Public Health, Division of Sanitary Engineering, has inspected the disposal area and reported the operation is in conformance with good sanitary practice. Rubbish schedule cards for 1964 are available in the Dept. of Public Works office.

Garbage collection contract was again awarded to Ralph D'Amato for a three year period.

#### **NEW EQUIPMENT:**

The following equipment was purchased during the year:

- 1 — 4 yd. body dump truck
- 1 — Traffic line marker
- 1 — Chip and sand spreader
- 2 — 1½ ton pick-up trucks
- 2 — Sanders

Plans are to renew our old equipment when necessary, as the maintenance of old equipment is a costly item to the Town.

The department wishes to express their thanks to the Town residents for their cooperation during the past year and for the many letters of appreciation which were received.

*Hollow Pine Shopping Center*



# Police Department

The members of your Police Department wish to express their appreciation to the Board of Selectmen and to the citizens of our community for the splendid cooperation extended to us this past year.

A booklet entitled "Guardians of Your Property and Welfare" was distributed to homes in Agawam. The cost of this publication was graciously undertaken by H. P. Hood & Sons as a community service. We strongly urge those who did not receive this booklet to obtain a copy from the Police Department for their own information.

In keeping with our past policy, Officer Robert Ormsby attended the Police Training School at Framingham, State Police Academy for six weeks.

The alterations in your police station mentioned in last year's report have been completed, May we extend an invitation for your inspection.

## I. Your Police Department's Activity Report for the year 1963.

It is interesting to note the increased work load in all phases, especially accidents, ambulance and medical service, arrests, and dog complaints.

	1961	1962	1963
Recovered Property .....	\$60,523.74	\$27,118.75	\$46,618.82
Revolver Permits, etc. ....	\$ 102.00	\$ 346.00	\$ 266.00
Ambulance Cases .....	247	266	329
Medical Cruisers .....	195	197	253
Missing Persons .....	29	26	46
House Checks .....	232	273	231
Business Checks .....	660	661	668
Complaints .....	1187	1493	1803
Dog Complaints .....	133	149	442

## II. Criminal Report and Arrests.

	1961	1962	1963
<b>Arrests</b>			
Against Person .....	8	10	19
Against Property .....	33	39	50
Against Public Order .....	205	493	627
<b>Dispositions</b>			
Guilty .....	198	500	569
Not Guilty .....	22	35	20
Pending .....	18	7	20
Turned over (to other Depts.) .....	8	17	18
	<hr/> 246	<hr/> 559	<hr/> 627
<b>Traffic Enforcement</b>			
Arrests .....	143	368	340
Warnings .....	287	161	126
Parking .....	0	0	63
Parking Reported to Registry .....	10	85	125
	<hr/> 440	<hr/> 614	<hr/> 641

III. Although there has been a 10% increase in our accident rate, most interesting in this phase of Law Enforcement is the sharp drop of 25% in the accidents on Route 5, Agawam's 1962 most prone accident area. This notable change may have been the result of the many meetings between the officials of your Town and Mass. Department of Public Works which resulted in the better posting of the area or increased patrolling by our cruisers and the Mass. State Police, and the cooperation of our citizens and neighbors who recognize the hazards of this short area.

	1961	1962	1963
Accidents .....	137	197	219
a. Personal Injury Accidents .....	88	129	127
b. Property Damage Accidents .....	49	65	91
c. Fatal .....	1	3	1
d. No. Persons Injured .....	160	189	189
e. No. Persons Killed .....	1	4	1

I wish to thank the members of our department, other Town departments, neighboring law enforcement agencies and the Auxiliary Police for their splendid cooperation and I am sure we will continue to work together striving to make our community a better place in which to work, play and live.

*Opening of New Saint Ann's Golf Course*



# Fire Department

This report includes the organization, apparatus, number of alarms, receipts, recommendations for the coming year and such other information as may be of interest.

## ORGANIZATION

At the end of the year 1963 the personnel of the Fire Department consisted of 24 members. Chief, 5 Lieutenants, and 18 Firefighters.

## APPARATUS

- 1 — 1930 International (Very poor condition)
- 1 — 1931 International (Poor condition)
- 1 — 1946 American LaFrance (Good condition, needs more work)
- 1 — 1948 Seagrave (Need new motor job, then good condition)
- 1 — 1949 Seagrave (Good condition)

## RECEIPTS

Receipts totaling \$96.00 have been received for oil burner permits and the sale of six used tires and that sum has been turned over to the Town Treasurer's Office.

## INSPECTIONS FOR 1963

School Fire Drills .....	32	Schools Inspected .....	30
Church Inspections .....	25	Church Schools .....	15
Repeat Inspections .....	25	Gas Stations .....	100
Cafes and Package Stores .....	25	Gas Tanks .....	11
Manufacturing Establishments .....	70	Oil Burner Repeats .....	80
Oil Burner Inspections .....	76	Business Establishments .....	170

All hydrants checked and location of same listed.

Total Inspection for the year 706. This included test of alarm at Old Age Home once a month by the Inspector and the Chief.

In 1963 the Fire Department responded to 476 alarms. These alarms are divided into the following categories:

Buildings .....	50	Grass-Brush-Dumps .....	285
Emergency .....	42	Automobiles-Trucks .....	49
Needless .....	25	False Alarms .....	14
Oil Burners .....		11	

There was one (1) fatality due to fire in 1963. The year 1963 has again broken the record for fires with a total of 62 calls over the total of previous years.

Due to the lack of help the department sounded nine (9) General Alarms for buildings and twelve (12) for forest fires. These were in the month of April and were due to severe dry conditions. At one time on April 13, there was one truck in service. Five trucks had broken down and were undergoing repairs. West Springfield sent a piece of equipment to stand by and cover the town in this emergency.



## FIRE LOSSES

Total valuation of buildings and contents where fires occurred was \$167,651.59.  
Total loss on buildings and contents paid through insurance amounted to \$56,874.00.

### Fires and losses for the last three years.

Year	Fire Alarm	Total Loss
1961	342	\$27,342.50
1962	414	35,654.53
1963	476	56,874.00

## RECOMMENDATIONS

For the third consecutive year I am asking for Manpower, Apparatus and Equipment along with the recommendations of the New England Fire Insurance Rating Association who made a survey of the town in May 1963.

We recommend that a full paid assistant or Deputy Chief be appointed so that at least one Chief Officer will be on duty at all times.

That the full paid force be increased in strength by the appointment of seven (7) paid men, to provide a minimum on duty at all times in the high value district.

That a Ladder Truck carrying at least 208 feet of ladders of suitable lengths and types be provided.

**Note:** In municipalities of 20,000 or less and having at least 5 buildings of a height corresponding to 3 or more stories there shall be at least one ladder truck, and due to the specialized services required of a ladder truck, including rescue work and elevation of fire streams, the use of power-raised ladder is desirable.

That immediate consideration be given to replacing the existing Feeding Hills Station by a modern building of fire-resistive construction; the location of the new station should be in the vicinity of Springfield, Westfield and Southwick Streets. There should be adequate space and equipment for making ordinary repairs to apparatus and material and suitable facilities for testing, repairing, washing, drying and storage of hose.

To the various Town Officials and members of their departments who have always cooperated with us in every way whenever necessary, I extend my thanks.

I wish to thank Police Chief Kenneth Grady and the members of his department for their cooperation during the year.

I am grateful to State Police Raymond Mahar, who assisted us during the year in the investigation of fires of unknown origin.

To the members of my department, I am deeply grateful. Their devotion to the fire service which often extends beyond the normal call of duty and sometimes at the risk of their own lives and safety, is one of the principal contributions toward making a successful department.

## Housing Authority

1963 was our first full year of occupancy at our Country View Apartments Housing for the Elderly at 95 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills. We are happy to report that the tenants are very pleased with the new apartments and we feel that this type of housing is an asset to our community. This development, which has been made possible by the aid provided by the Commonwealth, has been highly praised by our many visitors. We were very fortunate this past year in having only one vacancy which was filled from applications on file.

We now administer 40 units of housing for the elderly and 44 units of veterans' housing at our Joseph J. Brady Village project on Springfield St. These 84 units presented a problem from the standpoint of proper administration and therefore the need was felt for a full-time Executive Director-Accountant, since both these positions had been part-time beginning with our first 32 units of veterans' housing which were built in 1950. Mr. Arthur Wyatt who had been our accountant was appointed Executive Director and Accountant on a full time basis. We wish to express our appreciation to Mr. Herbert C. Litchfield, Jr. who, for the past ten years filled the very difficult position of part time Executive Director.

Now in the process of development is our second housing for the elderly project which we anticipate completing in the winter of 1964 or early spring of 1965. There are enough applications on file at present to fill this 40 unit project planned for the Agawam Center area.

At the Joseph J. Brady Village veterans' housing units the old oil burning boilers were removed and scrapped and a new 16 section cast iron gas burning Burnham boiler was installed at a cost of \$9,553.00. In addition and included in the cost was replacement or repair of all defective steam traps. The Authority felt that this was the only answer to the heating problems we have had in recent years.

Admission and occupancy income limits for housing in the Veterans' Project, as set by the State Housing Board are as follows:

ADMISSION LIMITS		CONTINUED OCCUPANCY LIMITS	
1 Minor Dependent .....	\$4500.00	1 Minor Dependent .....	\$5000.00
2 Minor Dependents .....	4700.00	2 Minor Dependents .....	5200.00
3 Minor Dependents or more ....	4900.00*	3 Minor Dependents or more ....	5400.00*

\*In computing rents the State Housing Board has given permission for a \$200.00 deduction from total family income for each minor dependent in excess of three.

The average cost of shelter rent for two or three bedroom units (without heat or hot water) is \$49.48 per month. During the year there were 9 Vacancies which were filled from applications on file.

The Authority has paid to the Town of Agawam this year in lieu of taxes, the sum of \$1,584.00. Financial statements for Project 200-C (Veterans' Housing) and for Project 667-1 (Elderly Housing) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1963 are included with this report.

Our sincere appreciation to all who have been so helpful to the Authority during 1963.

PROJECT 200-C  
(Veterans' Housing)  
BALANCE SHEET AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1963

ASSETS	
ADMINISTRATION FUND .....	\$ 6,942.50
Petty Cash .....	25.00
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	
Tenants .....	\$ 1,436.50
State Aid .....	875.00
Sundry .....	261.26
	<hr/>
	2,572.76
DEBT SERVICE FUND .....	9,315.04
INVESTMENTS — Schedule I (Attached) .....	31,034.26
DEBT SERVICE TRUST FUND .....	906.85
PREPAID INSURANCE .....	1,140.85
DEVELOPMENT COSTS .....	\$471,000.00
Less: Development Cost Liquidation .....	104,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS .....	367,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$418,937.26
 LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE .....	\$ 695.02
EMPLOYEES WITHHOLDING TAXES .....	119.99
	<hr/>
	\$ 815.01
ACCRUALS	
Payments in Lieu of Taxes .....	1,188.00
Matured Interest and Principal .....	10,608.50
Tenants Security Deposits .....	1,220.00
	<hr/>
	13,016.50
BONDS AUTHORIZED .....	471,000.00
Less: Bonds Retired .....	104,000.00
	<hr/>
	367,000.00
RESERVES	
Debt Service .....	17,590.67
Unamortized Bond Premium .....	1,906.85
Operating Reserve .....	14,944.61
	<hr/>
	34,442.13
SURPLUS .....	3,663.62
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS .....	<hr/>
	\$418,937.26

*Dining Area of New Junior High Cafeteria*





PROJECT 200-C  
(Veterans' Housing)  
SCHEDULE I  
INVESTMENTS

Worcester Federal Savings .....	\$ 4,008.57
Springfield Federal Savings .....	9,742.22
Union Federal Savings .....	8,903.60
Springfield Institution for Savings .....	7,379.87
U. S. Treasury Notes .....	1,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 31,034.26

OPERATING STATEMENT  
Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1963

INCOME	
Shelter Rent .....	\$ 26,129.00
Utility Charges to Tenants .....	7,517.50
Misc. Project Income (Interest) .....	1,174.75
	<hr/>
TOTAL PROJECT INCOME .....	\$ 34,821.25
EXPENSE	
Administrative Salaries and Services .....	\$ 1,460.26
Other Administrative Expenses .....	1,013.94
Compensation to Authority Members .....	670.06
Water .....	1,078.18
Electricity .....	590.40
Gas .....	1,785.25
Fuel and Heating Supplies .....	3,817.25
Heating Labor .....	1,000.00
Personal Services — Repairs and Maintenance .....	1,797.12
Materials and Supplies — Repairs and Maintenance .....	1,541.52
Contractual Services — Repairs and Maintenance .....	3,436.07
Insurance Expense .....	1,674.17
Collection Losses .....	206.00
Payments in Lieu of Taxes .....	1,584.00
Provision for Operating Reserves .....	3,264.00
Provision for Debt Service Reserves .....	485.15
Accounting Salaries and Services .....	583.30
Debt Service Requirements .....	16,945.96
	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENSES .....	\$ 42,932.63
DEFICIT (Before State Aid) .....	8,111.38
COMMONWEALTH CONTRIBUTION .....	\$ 9,275.00
REDUCTION FROM PRIOR SURPLUS .....	2,500.00
	<hr/>
TOTAL STATE AID .....	11,775.00
	<hr/>
SURPLUS .....	\$ 3,663.62
	<hr/>





PROJECT 667-1 (Elderly Housing)  
BALANCE SHEET AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1963

ASSETS	
ADMINISTRATION FUND .....	\$ 14,330.07
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE .....	700.77
PREPAID INSURANCE .....	2,190.91
DEVELOPMENT COSTS .....	\$495,000.00
Less: Development Cost Liquidation .....	10,000.00
	<hr/> 485,000.00
INCOMPLETED CONTRACTS .....	3,000.00
	<hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS .....	\$505,221.75

LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE .....	\$ 153.33
CONTRACT RETENTIONS .....	8,233.94
EMPLOYEES WITHHOLDING TAXES .....	170.23
NOTES AUTHORIZED .....	\$495,000.00
Less: Notes Retired .....	10,000.00
	<hr/> 485,000.00
MATURED INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL .....	432.42
CONTRACT AWARDS .....	3,000.00
DEBT SERVICE RESERVE .....	1,633.50
OPERATING RESERVE .....	6,063.74
SURPLUS .....	534.59
	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS .....	\$505,221.75

PROJECT 667-1 (Elderly Housing)  
OPERATING STATEMENT  
Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 1963

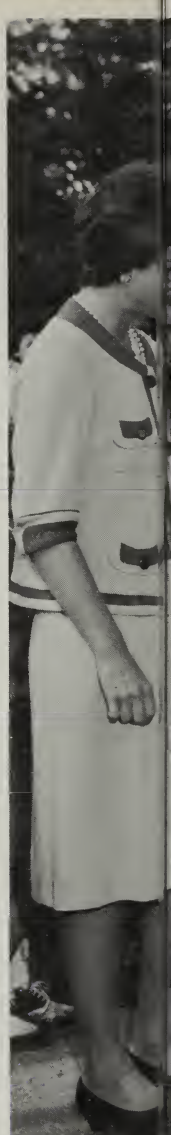
INCOME	
Shelter Rent .....	\$ 17,880.00
Utility Charges to Tenants .....	9,000.00
Miscellaneous Project Income .....	443.94
	<hr/>
TOTAL PROJECT INCOME .....	\$ 27,323.94
EXPENSES	
Administrative Salaries and Services .....	\$ 1,460.18
Other Administrative Expense .....	213.70
Accounting Salaries and Services .....	583.30
Water .....	443.46
Electricity .....	9,328.93
Personal Services — Repairs and Maintenance .....	2,695.68
Materials and Supplies — Repairs and Maintenance .....	607.32
Insurance Expense .....	1,758.28
Provisions for Operating Reserves .....	1,440.00
Provision for Debt Service Reserve .....	1,633.50
Debt Service Requirements .....	19,000.00
	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENSES .....	\$ 39,164.35
DEFICIT (Before State Aid) .....	11,840.41
COMMONWEALTH CONTRIBUTION .....	12,375.00
	<hr/>
SURPLUS .....	\$ 534.59

## In Memory of the Man

The briny bemoaning of tears  
Time must needs erase,  
But Heav'n above please preserve  
The mem'ry of their taste.  
And let mortals n'er forget the giant,  
The saint among us men  
Who leads us all to victory  
Although he rests now dead.  
Please instill in time to come  
The wonder of his love;  
The magic of his spirit  
Send here from Heav'n above.  
Give this world the courage  
To bear what he bore well;  
And give mankind the love  
That in his heart did dwell.

Susan Colli

Agawam High School Class of '64







## Inspector of Buildings

98	Dwellings .....	\$1,308,520.00
39	Garages .....	40,025.00
33	Businesses .....	1,273,755.00
88	Additions and Alterations .....	105,428.00
59	Miscellaneous .....	343,440.00
36	Demolish .....	1,650.00
<hr/>		
353		\$3,072,818.00

For the Year 1964 in dwellings we can expect a slow start which will accelerate to a fast pace beginning about June or July and will continue to the end of the year.

36 permits for demolition were issued. Demolitions are very important to the Town as they usually remove old dilapidated buildings and in many instances, they are replaced with new modern buildings.

This office wishes to advise anyone that is contemplating buying land for dwellings or business, to contact this office before closing the deal, as Agawam Zoning requirements might not allow the building or business planned.

The Building Inspector will be glad to advise and help anyone with their building problems.

We will endeavor to continue our program of help and advice to all who are building and will maintain the same courteous attitude and service during the coming year.

Throughout the year, this Department made the usual inspections of Clubs, Bars, Grills, and Night Clubs, Factories and places of Public Assembly. It was gratifying to notice that these places are in excellent order and repair and the cooperation of owners and managers was excellent.

It is gratifying to note that in Agawam, Builders and Developers are erecting larger homes with a much greater dollar value and the prospects for 1964 are that most homes will be out of the \$12,000.00 and \$14,000.00 class and in the \$18,000.00 and \$20,000.00 category.

In 1963 the Building Inspector made the following calls and inspections which are classified below:

Total inspections and calls .....	1683
Building violations .....	111
Zoning investigations .....	98
Building without permits .....	16
Not safe signs posted .....	8
On site calls for people wishing information or advice .....	59
Stop work orders posted .....	33
Inspections of places of Public Assembly .....	18

It has been a pleasure to serve you as Building Inspector and wish at this time to thank the Selectmen and the Town Officials for their cooperation.



## **Electrical Inspector**

This year was a busy year for electrical inspections. New construction accounted for most of the inspections in the first half of the year. The second half of the year showed a marked increase in the upgrading of wiring in the older homes. This was due mainly to a new program instituted at mid-year by Western Mass. Electric Company.

Under this program, the Utility Company paid for the installation of 100 ampere service entrance wiring when necessary for the installation of a major electrical appliance. Repairs to existing wiring and additional new wiring at the time these changes were made, increased the safety and convenience in these homes considerably.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your wiring inspector and at this time I wish to thank everyone for the help given me in the performance of my duties.

## **Inspector of Plumbing**

During the Year 1963 due to the tremendous increase of Apartments and Dwellings built in the Town of Agawam, the plumbing inspections increased by 11% over the year 1962. This has required an average of 26 hours per week, and an average mileage of 126 miles per week.

I attended three meetings of the New England Association of Plumbing Inspectors to become better acquainted with the new rules and regulations of the State.

A new card system was installed in the Plumbing Department Office to maintain better control of plumbing applications, permits and inspections.

I wish to thank Charles Ferrero, Assistant Plumbing Inspector for his help and assistance.

## **Clearing House**

We are continuing our services for the various civic groups, churches, clubs and individuals in the town who donate towards Christmas and Thanksgiving baskets, gifts, campships and various needs of the less fortunate.

The response to all of the above with donations of all kinds has been most gratifying.

We wish to take this medium to thank all for their generosity.

## Board of Appeals

Fifteen petitions asking variations from the requirements of the Zoning By-Laws or the Building Code were filed with the Board during 1963.

Three petitions were withdrawn, two were denied and two continued and eleven were granted. In several cases where the petition was granted, the Board included in the Decision such restrictions as they considered necessary to protect the best interest of the Town and the neighborhood.

We wish once more to remind persons considering the purchase of a building lot or existing buildings to make sure that plans they may have for the future use of the property are in compliance with the various By-Laws of the Town as well as the various State laws involved.

Every year for some time past, the Board has had frequent petitions for variations of side lot requirements to allow the addition of garage and/or breezeway to an existing dwelling. The Board is able to grant a variance on comparatively few of these petitions because the Courts have ruled that if a garage can be located on the lot in such a manner as to comply with the requirements of the Zoning By-Laws, the desire of an owner to have it attached to the house is not a sufficient reason to grant a variation.

Lack of the consideration of the conditions cannot be considered a legal "Hardship." It is absolutely necessary to prove "Hardship" before any variation can be granted.



*Lay Memorial Methodist Church*

## Sealer of Weights and Measures

As Sealer of Weights and Measures for the Town of Agawam I submit to you this annual report for the year ending December 31, 1963.

### WEIGHING AND MEASURING DEVICES

Adjusted .....	96
Sealed .....	745
Not Sealed .....	8
Condemned .....	13
Total	862

### TRIAL WEIGHINGS AND MEASUREMENTS OF COMMODITIES SOLD OR PUT FOR SALE

Number Correct .....	1152
Under .....	128
Over .....	82
Total Number Tested .....	1362

### OTHER INSPECTIONS

Pedlers Licenses .....	11
Oil Trucks .....	15
Marking of Bread .....	86
Marking of Food Packages .....	1096
Marking of Charcoal (bags) .....	15
Clinical Thermometers .....	193
Glass Graduates .....	38
Total	1454

### SEALERS WORK SUMMARY

Devices Sealed Adjusted Condemned .....	862
Trial Weighings and Measurements .....	1362
Inspections .....	1454
Total	3678

SEALING FEES COLLECTED AND TURNED INTO THE TOWN TREASURER \$346.35

## Board of Public Welfare

Board meetings have been called regularly. It was necessary to hire a new clerk from the Civil Service list as the former clerk, Mrs. Kennedy, resigned to be at home with her new baby. We were fortunate in securing the services of Mrs. Adele Biglin who was formerly with the Division of Employment Security.

The department is functioning to the complete satisfaction of the State Department of Public Welfare.



## Director of Public Assistance

There have been many changes in our laws regarding aid in all categories of assistance. However, the local board still has the administration of such relief. The number of cases in Medical Assistance for the Aged has more than doubled, going from 19 cases to 52 in the past year. These are on the whole expensive as many are in nursing homes or hospitalized.

Services for rehabilitation carrying better home life and strengthening parents in their child rearing role effectively as well as assisting families for readiness and capacity for self-support is required in our work with Aid to Families with Dependent Children. The fullest use of community resources with special emphasis on health, education, and vocational training for the benefit of each child is another of our objectives. It is also our objective to prevent disease and incapacity, to promote recovery from illness and to maintain or restore maximum capacity to function in the presence of chronic disease and disablement.

There is a tremendous amount of paper work required by the State Department for use in Federal and State statistics.

The law governing settlements which has required much time and correspondence to verify has been repealed, effective January 1, 1964. At the same time the new Act provides for increased State reimbursement for Old Age Assistance and a 20% reimbursement on our General Relief cases.

Again we wish to take this opportunity to express our thanks to the other town departments and fellow town workers for the help extended to us. The Department of Public Works has cooperated with us in taking applications for work from men who have been referred to them from our department. The Health Department and the Nurses have saved us much money. The Town Accountant has been very patient and helped us at every point, and our Welfare Board and Finance Board have cooperated in every way. All of this cooperation has helped to make our Department function effectively.

*St. David's Episcopal Church*





## Health Department

In 1963, programs of Tuberculin testing, Oral Polio Clinics, Well Baby Clinics, Immunization Clinics, Rabies Immunization and Health Counseling were continued. A program of Diphtheria and Tetanus immunization was initiated. A modified Mosquito spray program was continued with few complaints.

The Health Department budget represented less than 1% of the tax dollar. It is anticipated that the 1965 budget will remain at the same low percentage. This rate is considerably lower than the national average.

The River Road interceptor and the South Westfield Street sewers have not been accepted as of the close of this year. However, these sewers are expected to be accepted in 1964. Agawam can be proud of its environmental health program. Upon completion of the River Road interceptor, Agawam will be the first community in the Connecticut valley to eliminate all forms of pollution of the Connecticut River. Now is the time to study and evaluate the remaining environmental hazards within our boundaries.

The mosquito program in 1963 was from 73% to 86% effective. The modified program had good results in controlling the mosquito population. However, fly, moth and related pests were not as well controlled as in the past. Seven complaints were received. Four of the complaints were handled by spot spraying, while three were solved by counsel. Swamp reclaiming was hampered by legal technicalities. The mosquito program will probably be revised again. This Department was represented at the "General Mosquito Control and Safe use of Pesticides" program operated by the State Health Department and the Public Health Service. In 1965, the mosquito program will be carried out under the approval of the Health Department, the Fish and Wildlife Department and the Department of Agriculture.

Tuberculin testing was performed on 857 students in the school system. This is an increase of twenty (20) students over last year. First grade, seventh grade and Juniors in the High School were tested under this program. This test shows whether a person has been exposed to or come in contact with tuberculosis. This is the indicator and trend test which determines the need of increasing or decreasing the present program.

A new program was initiated this year. With the co-operation of the school system, a survey was made of the Freshmen school population to determine the need for Diphtheria and Tetanus booster injections. It was found that for the Freshmen Class, 85% had not received adequate booster injections for protection. With the State Health Department's (Division of Communicable Disease) recommendation that each child receive 3 shots as a child, a booster at one year of age, prior to entering school, in the 6th grade and again in high school, this Department initiated a booster clinic for the Freshmen in High School. A total of 228 or 70% of the Freshmen received a booster dose of Diphtheria and Tetanus vaccine. This program will be continued in the future as long as the need is evident.

The D.P.W., Police and Fire Departments were protected by inoculation against influenza in special clinics. The Public Works personnel also received immunization against tetanus and typhoid.

With the cooperation of the School Department and the State Health Department, this Department caused special Oral Polio Clinics to be held in all the schools. At total of 8631 doses of Oral vaccine were given out. It is estimated that 4250 pre-school and school children have been protected against all three (3) types of polio. This is 90% of the pre-school population and 87% of the school population. It is hoped that the vaccine will be available to the adult population in 1964. It must be remembered that all three types of Oral vaccine are needed for complete protection. Further, the Oral polio vaccine does not protect against any of the other childhood diseases such as Diphtheria, Whooping Cough or Tetanus. The triple shots must still be obtained for protection against these diseases.

In 1963, 197 dogs were protected against rabies. The total number of dogs protected against rabies in the last two (2) years is 805. This is 57% of the dog population. Rabies in the Bat population is still being reported. As long as this source of infection continues, there is serious danger that rabies will become established in Massachusetts. To protect yourself, your neighbors and your dog, you are urged to take advantage of the rabies clinics which will be held again in 1964. Remember, it is a law in Agawam that all dogs be protected against rabies.

One hundred twenty-four (124) residents of our town died last year. It is interesting to note the causes of death over the last few years. Although, more than half of all the deaths are still caused by heart disease, the number of heart deaths are decreasing. The number of deaths due to cancer and pneumonia are increasing.

CAUSES OF DEATH BY PERCENT

	1961	1962	1963
Heart Disease	54.0%	53.2%	52.3%
Cancer	10.5%	15.5%	17.0%
Pneumonia	12.4%	7.4%	10.5%
Cerebral	7.6%	6.6%	6.4%

The actual number of deaths are as follows:

Heart .....	61	Accidents .....	4
Cancer .....	21	Lung diseases .....	3
Pneumonia .....	13	Suicide .....	3
Cerebral causes .....	8	All other .....	6
Prematurity .....	5		

It can be noted that deaths due to lung disease appears in the summary list for the first time. It is evident that the increase of lung and chest diseases shows a close association between an organic substance, its use and its effect upon the body. It is the opinion of this Department that smoking is the contributing factor in the increase of deaths due to chest ailments, cancer, and other diseases.

## Smoking

This Department feels responsible to present to you the facts on smoking. The evidence obtained, which is highly technical, can be best presented by official statements from five well-known and respected societies.

1. "Resolved, that there is sufficient evidence available of a relationship between smoking and lung cancer to justify advising the public to stop smoking cigarettes as a means of eventually lowering the incidence and to advise the youth of America to ponder well the question whether the risk entailed is worth the pleasure derived."

Resolution of the Public Health Cancer Association (October 11, 1954)

2. "Resolved, that the American Cancer Society emphasize to the American people that the presently available evidence indicates an association between smoking, particularly cigarette smoking, and lung cancer, and to a lesser degree other forms of cancer . . . "

Resolution adopted by the American Cancer Society (October 22, 1954)

3. "The National Tuberculosis Association warns all persons that — there is alarming increase in deaths from lung cancer — cigarette smoking is a major cause of lung cancer — the risk of lung cancer increases with the number of cigarettes smoked — giving up smoking reduces the risk of lung cancer — cigarette smoking is a factor in such crippling lung diseases as chronic bronchitis and emphysema . . . "

Statement of the National Tuberculosis Association (February 27, 1960)

4. "The weight of scientific evidence . . . demonstrates that cigarette smoking is a major cause of the increase in cancer of the lung. It is clear that an individual's risk to lung cancer rises in relation to the number of cigarettes smoked. Everyone should be aware of these conclusions because of their importance to health."

Surgeon General of the U. S. Public Health Service (April, 1962)

5. "The weight of scientific evidence distinctly indicates that cigarette smoking and the inhalation of other atmospheric pollutants have an association relationship which strongly suggests a causal connection with chronic bronchitis, pulmonary emphysema, cor pulmonale, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer of the lung.

"The College urges its members and the medical profession in general to intensify their educational campaign directed toward the public, and the youth in particular, relative to the hazards of smoking."

Boards of Regents of the American College of Chest Physicians (June 22, 1962)

It can be further noted that Finland, Great Britain, Italy, New Zealand, Germany, Iceland, South Africa, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Spain, and Russia have made statements urging less use of cigarettes or banning or limiting their advertising. Further, it is a fact that cigarettes have very definite debilitating effects such as, causing a lessened well-being, coughing, sore throats, hoarseness, shortness of breath, pain or discomfort in the chest, difficulty in swallowing, constipation, diarrhea, stomach-ache, loss of appetite, headache, dizziness, insomnia, and so on. Last, but not least, compare the death rates caused by smoking in the Hammond-Horn study of 2665 deaths to the death rates in Agawam for this year.



	Hammond-Horn	Agawam
Heart Disease	52.1%	52.3%
Cancer	23.7%	17.0%
Pneumonia	5.6%	10.5%
Cerebral	4.8%	6.4%

The facts warrant your cutting down the amount of smoking you do or eliminating it entirely.

There were 467 communicable diseases reported to the Health Department in 1963. This is compared to 567 reported cases in 1962. The decrease can be attributed to a decrease in the amount of measles. Another increase and a peak in the number of measles cases can be expected in the latter part of 1964 or early 1965. It is hoped that sufficient people, by this time, will have taken advantage of the new measles vaccine which will eliminate this disease in such epidemic proportions. Measles is a very dangerous disease. It can kill, disable, or maim. The effects in early pregnancy can be disastrous to the unborn infant. We owe it to ourselves to eliminate this disease from our population.

Diseases	Cases 1962	Cases 1963	Compared 1962
Chicken Pox	20	114	+ 94
German Measles	5	127	+122
Measles	411	24	-377
Mumps	22	96	+ 74
Scarlet Fever	7	8	+ 1
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Hepatitis	3	3	0
Dysentery	0	0	0
Strep Throat	0	6	+ 6
Dog Bites	97	87	- 10
Tuberculosis	2	1	- 1
Meningitis	0	2	+ 2

Diseases below the seven year average were Chicken Pox, Mumps, Measles, and Scarlet Fever. German Measles had an increase of 122 cases which was 39 cases above the seven year average.

There was a decrease of 10 dog bites as compared to 1962. However, the incidence of dog bite in the fall months was much higher than usual. September (ave. 6.5) had 11 dog bites and October (ave. 6.5) had 12 dog bites. This is almost a 50% increase in dog bites. The long, dry, warm fall seems to be the reason for the increase in biting. It would seem evident that weather plays a large part in the number of dog bites in a year. The dog owner should remember this when he releases his dog to run free. Do not forget that dog bites are a crime in Massachusetts.



The following licenses and permits were issued by the Health Department in 1963.

Trailer Camp .....	1	Milk Licenses .....	66
Cabins and Motels .....	4	Milk — Vehicles .....	20
Kindergartens .....	5	Methyl Alcohol .....	6
Pasteurization .....	3	Ice Cream Manufacturers .....	3
Oleomargarine .....	23	Septic Tanks .....	47

Laboratory Analysis were made on:

41 — Water Samples                      115 — Milk Samples                      24 — Utensils Samples

Sanitary surveys, complaint calls, septic tank inspections and routine inspections of schools, farm labor camps, day care centers, eating establishments, camps, bathing places, housing, dairies, stores, markets, and bakeries were made. The new State Rules and Regulations on Day Care centers were made law in December of this year. The new licensing procedure will be put into operation in 1964.

In the coming year, this Department plans to continue the mosquito control program, stream pollution program, rabies, polio, diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, measles, and tetanus prevention, food handling and educational programs with emphasis on the present social problems in the community.

In conclusion, I wish to extend an invitation to any and all interested townspeople to visit their Health Department. I thank the Board of Health, the Public Health Doctor, the Public Health Nurses, Mrs. Tisdell, all other departments of the town and the townspeople for all their help and cooperation.

*Kitchen of New Junior High Cafeteria*



## Public Health Nurses

The Public Health Nurses have had a full and busy year. The following are some of the functions relating to public health nursing care and individuals, families and groups. The Public Health Nurse gives, arranges for, teaches or supervises nursing care of the sick and injured. They carry out nursing skills contributing to treatment and rehabilitation. Plans for co-ordinated nursing service for individuals and families under her care. Appraises individual and family health counseling, including emotional support, to individuals, families, and groups. Consults with and refers families to appropriate personnel within the agency, school, or other community services. Treatments and, when required, diagnostic and preventive procedures are carried out under medical direction.

The following is a breakdown of our calls:

Diagnostic visits (bedside care and home nursing) .....	1701
Public Health visits totaled .....	2451

Public Health breakdown as to visits:

School Communicables .....	624	Typhoid Carriers .....	8
Mental Health .....	670	Premature Babies .....	42
Health Counsel .....	524	Prenatal .....	16
New Active T.B. ....	4	Postnatal .....	30
Follow up active contacts T.B. ....	60	Preschool Children .....	12
Follow up inactive contacts T.B. ....	14	Retarded Children .....	8
Salmonella .....	28	Crippled Children .....	1
Dysentery .....	18	First Aid .....	130
Scarlet Fever .....	32	Meningitis .....	4
Infectious Hepatitis .....	24	All Other .....	124

The nurses attended several meetings to keep up with the ever changing trends in medicine and health work.

### Meetings Attended:

- February 28th — District I Mass. Nurses Association
- April 10th — Old age work shop in Pittsfield
- April 17th — Western Mass. Board of Health at Ludlow
- April 23rd — Seminar on P.K.U. — Municipal Hospital
- April 24th — Mass. Public Health Association at Oaks Inn
- May 6th — Cancer Service Committee at Springfield Hospital
- June 12th — Cancer Service Committee at Springfield Hospital  
(2nd meeting)
- June 20th — Treatment of Burns at Dedham by Chelsea Naval Base  
Personnel
- September 10th — Physiological and pathological aspects of chronic chest  
diseases — at Providence Hospital
- October 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th At Municipal Hospital for In Service  
November 5th, 12th education on School Health Services
- October 24th — Western Mass. Boards of Health at Oaks Inn
- October 25th — Mass. Public Health Association Fall Meeting at  
Schine Inn

### Well Child Conference:

A total of 80 children made 226 visits to 11 clinics.

## Civil Defense

The year just concluded was marked by several significant developments in the National civil defense policy which had state and local repercussions. The fallout shelter program was further implemented by Defense Secretary McNamara, and in addition to the 959 PF4 spaces surveyed last year, the Army Engineers approved 280 PF3 spaces and 1925 PF2 spaces in Agawam, at the Town Hall, the Senior High School, Airport Grandstand, Danahy School, Elm St. Woolen Mill, and Hood's Milk plant. This makes a total of 3164 spaces in eight locations for the public shelter of our residents against radioactive fallout. A radiation monitoring kit and subsistence supplies are being furnished without charge by Federal Civil Defense for each of the certified shelters, and the current local program of greatest interest is to obtain and install the equipment and supplies, and to train an adequate number of volunteers so that efficient use can be made of all available facilities in case of emergency.

With our School System property so prominently involved in the shelter projects, and the need for greatly stepped-up training activities at the local level, it was inevitable that the state educational organization would become more active in the total Civil Defense program. To this end, the Mass. Dept. of Education has arranged for instructor-level courses throughout the state, including University of Massachusetts, in which Agawam School personnel have been invited to enroll. Superintendent of Schools James Clark and Principal James Loomis at Granger have been most helpful in these endeavors.

On November 16th, Agawam was represented at the dedication of the just-completed two million dollar Mass. C.D. Emergency Operation Center located in Framingham on the grounds of the State Police Headquarters. Asst. Defense Secy. Steuart L. Pittman represented the Federal Government at the exercises and emphasized the increasingly important role of Civil Defense at all levels, in the total military defense and retaliatory powers of the nation.

The local Director would be remiss at this point if he did not mention the tremendous contribution of the late President Kennedy to the Civil Defense progress, posture, and stability in recent years. His intense dedication to the public interest, and establishment of the Agency in Washington as an integral and vital part of the Military establishment will serve as an inspiration to the thousands of voluntary Civil Defense workers for years to come.

*Feeding Hills Congregational Church*





## Veterans' Services

During 1963 the expenditures for Veterans' Benefits exceeded the original appropriation by \$9,695.49. An additional appropriation of \$9,000.00 was granted at the August town meeting and a transfer of \$695.49 was made from the Reserve fund in December.

The increase was partially due to a rise in the State minimum benefits and an increase in the number of active cases handled during 1963 by this department.

It's an obvious fact that the veteran and his dependents are slowly aging as the years pass by, consequently, a stay in the hospital may be more extended before complete recovery is possible. Another factor is the increase in basic hospitalization and medical cost that have been granted last year. It is also more difficult for the veteran to secure immediate re-employment thus causing a longer "stay" on our rolls.

It is our guided opinion that the Veterans' Service account will continue to rise during the ensuing years as indicated by the continuing increases as stated previously. Our 1964 budget will be \$30,000.00.

The following figures account for expenditures during 1963:

Ordinary Benefits .....	\$19,945.26
Fuel .....	1,320.42
Doctors .....	658.05
Nursing Homes .....	2,116.45
Medication .....	1,794.75
Hospital .....	4,192.51
Dental .....	170.00
Miscellaneous .....	498.05
<hr/>	
Total Expended 1963 .....	\$30,695.49

The Town of Agawam is in receipt of \$11,294.47 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the State's share (50%) of the expenditures for 1962. This amount has been turned over to the E & D account.

Agawam's share of the cost of administration for this department during 1963 was \$6,852.23.

As is undoubtedly known that the Veterans' Department serves a dual purpose. In addition to accounting for and disbursing cash aid to qualified veterans, this office makes itself available for processing of numerous phases of veteran entitlements — such as pensions, income questionnaires, recording of discharges, rehabilitation, housing, insurance, education, employment, tax exemptions, counseling, etc.

These services, which are available to all veterans, have definitely tended to ease the many problems confronting the present day veteran and his dependents. They have resulted in large savings to the town. As one example — eleven veteran pensions and five widows' pensions were acquired during 1963 — thereby increasing the amount of Federal revenue paid to residents of Agawam — thus eliminating extra expenditures by the local government.

Over 1400 individual varied requests were made of this office during the year. It is our intention that a new census of Agawam veterans will be taken in 1964.

## Animal Inspector

There continues to be an alarming number of dog bites each year. It is recommended that dogs be tied during the time that children are going to and returning from school. It is most important that all cases of biting be reported to the Police Department or the Health Department. Rabies Clinics have been started so that all dog owners can protect their dogs against this dreaded disease. Remember! Report all cases of dog bites, cat bite, rodent bite and bat bite.

Barns Inspected .....	29	No. of Beef Cattle .....	118	No. of Sheep .....	4
No. of Dairy Cows .....	187	No. of Goats .....	4	No. of Swine .....	314
No. of Dairy Bulls .....	4	No. of Horses .....	69	No. of Dog Bites .....	87

## Slaughter Inspector

Mr. Clark Jones made inspections of the following number of animals.

Calves .....	432	Hogs .....	96	Goats .....	9	Beef Cattle .	1
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## Tree Warden

All phases of the forestry department operated smoothly.

The largest Elm in town finally had to be removed as the ravages of Dutch Elm took this monstrous land mark.

Tree plantings in variety continued. The results of these plantings can be seen more each year in the enhancement it has made in various parts of town.

Ice storms which plagued us early in the year left no great damage to our roadside trees.

Removal of some dangerous stumps, spraying and spot tree trimming rounded out the workings of this department.

I wish to thank the Police Department, and Department of Public Works for their cooperation during the year.

## Planning Board

During the Year 1963 the Planning Board of Agawam held, in addition to its twelve regular meetings, several meetings with Technical Associates of New Haven in conjunction with the development of the Town Master Plan. Included among our regular meetings were eight public hearings for Zone Changes, one public hearing upon the revision proposed in the Sub-Division Control Law and one public hearing upon the revision proposed in the Zoning By-Law.

In addition to the above routine of Planning Board work, the board during the past year was concerned with two major revisions of laws under which it must perform its duties. The first of these was an updating of the Sub-Division control law to which all residential developments must conform. Specific changes effected in this revision had to do with the width and grade of proposed streets and the installation of 8" sewer and water mains. The "rules and regulations governing the Sub-Division of land" may be obtained in the Planning Board office. The second major revision of law dealt with the Zoning By-Law. Here the board was

successful in obtaining an entirely new zoning classification in the form of residence A-3 which is a restrictive type zone for apartment type houses only. The restrictions contained therein modify apartment type construction to effectively eliminate many of the objections held in the past toward this type of residence. Residential zoning was further affected by the amendment to eliminate all but one unregistered vehicle from individually registered lots.

An important item which should allow for the greater development of our industrial zone had to do with an allowance for the presence of buildings in Industrial B of floor area less than five thousand square feet. Many industries wish to establish themselves in communities such as Agawam but do not wish to establish upon a basis which would insure their insolvency in the immediate future. The general provisions were amended to allow a protection clause against the hazard of outdoor swimming pools. As an added protection to the town against the promiscuous removal of topsoil, a section delineating exactly the rules governing such removal was adopted. Copies of these revisions may be had in the Planning Board office as soon as they are printed.

Technical Associates of New Haven during the past year turned over to the Board a booklet entitled the master plan of the town of Agawam, copies of which may also be obtained from the Planning Board office. This plan which is a fairly definitive study of the present status of the Town with respect to land use, condition of present sewer, water, school and recreational development may serve as a basis upon which to develop the Town toward certain well defined goals.

It is not the purpose nor the intent of this basic study to determine fully these goals but rather we must look to the continued modification of our future efforts in planning and the insight which may be gained thereby to determine our goals. Only in this way, with planning considered as an evolutionary procedure rather than a static, once conceived then forgotten, concept; may we approach the problem of "What do we want for Agawam" in a more realistic manner.

Addressing ourselves to these principles, we are endorsing fully the planned procedures for school development as set forth in the Master Plan and definitely outlined in school committee procedure. We are urging the immediate survey of sewer needs to make adequate the system we now have. To this end we are introducing an article in the coming town warrant for a study survey of sewer needs, a study divided into three phases for proper engineering study and equalized capital expenditure. We are urging the delay of water main study pending the completion of a study now underway by Tighe and Bond concerned with a possible secondary source for Agawam water. We are urging the support of the Agawam Conservation Commission and the future land taking necessary to preserve natural watersheds and drainage areas. To this end we propose a future study in conjunction with the Commission to effectively meet these desires. Much remains to be done — the presentation of a completed Master Plan is but the first step toward complete town planning — let us use our time wisely.

We wish to thank Mr. James J. Gloster the Zoning enforcing officer for his cooperation and the Department of Public Works for their unfailing support toward our Planning programs as well as other Departments who have been a great help to us.



## Libraries

In 1963 Agawam again received the State Grant to Libraries amounting to \$3,929.00 which represents a maximum of \$0.25 per capita. In the forthcoming year the grant will be paid to the Town directly from the "General Fund". This represents "new monies" and will not be subtracted from the usual amount remitted to the Town by the State as appearing yearly on the so called "Cherry Sheet".

Our membership in the Regional Library System, established in 1962, has begun to show the expected results. Many books, not available in our libraries because of a limited demand, have been supplied by the Regional Library, on request, for use by our readers.

At a meeting of Librarians of the Greater Springfield Area, attended by our Head Librarian, it was agreed that all libraries in the suburban towns would increase their subscriptions in the field of magazines specifically used by students and keep these periodicals in file for at least five years.

Miss Clara McVeigh retired December 1st from the staff of the Agawam Center Library. Her long and faithful service on the Board of Trustees and as Librarian of the Agawam Center Library is well appreciated.

In her first year of operation our Head Librarian has made an impressive start on recataloging the old collections as well as cataloging the new books as they are received. The long hoped for Master Catalog has been started and this, when projected, will greatly extend the usage of the book collection. With the securing of more professional help the entire cataloging project should proceed on schedule and improve library service.

Each year it has become increasingly evident to the Board of Library Trustees that the total library space, spread out as it is, has been for sometime, totally inadequate in terms of staff, books, and workspace. For a town with a population of 16,000 there is insufficient room for proper reference work by students and adults and no area for small children set apart from the adult section. A new Central Library, large enough to serve the town on a projected population basis, is needed to give efficient complete library service in the modern standards which most towns of our population, and under, are already offering. This should only be considered when Federal funds are made available on a near matching basis. A bill for the improvement of public libraries, now in a Congressional Committee, may provide the solution, if acted on favorably.

Our circulation has increased over 1962 by a total of 6,149, the figures for books are balanced by an increase in new additions over the withdrawal of many worn out and obsolete volumes.

	Books	Borrowers	Circulation
Agawam Center	8,322	1,159	20,789
North Agawam	6,776	1,499	23,915
Feeding Hills	6,947	1,285	10,441

## Parks – Playgrounds and Recreation

The Parks and Playground commission had in operation during the summer of 1963 seven playground areas for the children during the summer months. We averaged between 275–300 children at each playground during the week for the summer program. We had special days at each playground where a supervisor would come to that area and run special programs for the children there. In this field we would have doll parades, bicycle parades, field hunts, softball games, checker tournaments.

The Arts and Crafts program under the able direction of Jeanette Barry continues to grow by leaps and bounds each year. Here the children make various articles of copper, plaster of paris, leather, etc. This program draws some of the largest crowds at each area.

Each play area ran its usual games of softball, checkers, and field days, soccer and many other games, contests during the summer. We continued to work with the Police Department and helped register bicycles for the safety program. Here bikes are checked, registered, and given a number plate and serial number. We believe that this is an excellent safety program and we are only too happy to help the police department in doing this job every summer.

For the second straight year we opened a new set of courts at Phelps school and the courts were crowded with tennis players not only during the day but the adults used them in the evening. This winter we used these courts for skating rinks for the children of Agawam. The growth of hockey in this town calls for a hockey rink for the future as we have several teams from town playing hockey every Saturday in West Springfield.

Our Tennis program at the High School had another banner year with the final month given over to the tournament run by Miss Danforth. Many prizes and cups were awarded which were donated by the merchants and the people in the town. Tennis instruction was available all year at the High School, Phelps, and Shea's field from Dianne Driscoll, or Pat Neggrucci.

Again we must mention that the main needs for this town is in the field of a swimming pool. Agawam is the only town of its size within a fifty mile radius that doesn't have a public swimming pool for its children. Each year that we wait the costs go up as we have seen over the past five years. Another problem is that the commission must have added property of its own so as they can maintain its facilities for the entire town.

The Park Commission wishes to express its appreciation to the School Committee for its cooperation throughout the year in the use of their facilities.

*Entrance Lounge of Agawam Motor Lodge*



## Conservation Commission

The Agawam Conservation Commission is being served by the following people of the Town of Agawam: Roland Reed, chairman; William R. Chiba, secretary; George Fleming, treasurer; Thomas Cascio, William Shaylor, Roy Fournier, and Anthony DiDonato.

Members of the Commission met jointly several times with the Springfield Conservation Commission, Superintendent of the Springfield Dept. of Public Works, Mr. Wylie Hubbard, Mr. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Springfield, and Mr. Orsi of the Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources.

An area located in the Town of Agawam, but owned by the City of Springfield was decided upon for the creation of a public boat landing and parking area for the people of the Commonwealth. The cost of the access and parking facility is being financed jointly by the State of Massachusetts and the Federal Government.

The Conservation Commission donated to the Agawam High School Library the best seller "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson. The book exposes the careless and indiscriminate use of insecticides and pesticides in the United States, and points out the danger to the health of the people of the nation if the use is not regulated.

The Agawam Conservation Commission have met with the following organizations during 1963. The West Springfield Conservation Commission, attended several meetings both in Hartford, Connecticut and Longmeadow, Mass. in regard to the pollution of the Connecticut River and the dredging of same, The Westfield Watershed Association, The Hampden County Council of Sportsmen Clubs, The Springfield Yacht Club; and members also attended a two-day session with the Massachusetts Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Local problems were discussed at all these meetings.

The Commission was invited and participated in the Memorial Day Parade.

*Sainte Therese de L'Enfant Jesus*





# Town Meeting Members

## PRECINCT 1

	Annual	2-16-63	2-23-63	7-8-63	9-16-63	9-23-63	9-28-63	12-19-63
Adams, Paul J.			x	x	x	x		x
Balboni, Walter A.		x	x	x			x	
Bassani, Benjamin S.		x	x	x		x	x	x
Bellano, Albert W.		x			x	x	x	x
Bertera, Peter J.		1		x				
Borgatti, Romeo H.		x	x			x		
Cebrelli, Richard A.		1	x	x	x		x	
Connor, Edward M.		x	x	x			x	
Connor, Francis A.		x					x	
Curran, Donald P.		x	x				x	
DeForge, Jasper P.		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
DeForge, Raymond J.		x	1	x				
Duclos, Lawrence L.				x	x	x	x	
Dugan, John E.		1	1	x	x	x	x	
Ferrero, Raymond								
Gallano, Andrew C.		x	x					x
Grady, Kenneth R.		1	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kane, James P.		x	x		x	x	x	x
Letellier, Walter J.		x	x			x	x	
Montagna, Albert J.		x	x			x	x	x
Montagna, Michael P.		x	x	x				x
Nardi, Raymond		x	1	x	x	x	x	x
Provo, Samuel F.		1	x	x	x	x	x	
Saracino, Raymond		1	x	x	x	x	x	x
Schneider, Harry W.		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Swanson, Ernest C.		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Tisdell, Merrill O.						x		
Walsh, William T.		x	x	x	x			
Letellier, Walter T.		1	x	x		x	x	x
Tricinella, Cynthia		x	x					

## PRECINCT 2

Atwater, Harold C., Jr.	x	x	x	x			x	x
Bedard, Marcel A.	x	1				x	x	x
Belcher, Leonard C.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brown, Noel E.	x	x	x			x	x	x
Cesan, David T.	x		x	x	x	x	x	x
Cecan, Harry W.						x		
Chmielewski, Stanley J.	1	1		x				
Clark, William C.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
DeForge, William J., Jr.	x	x						
Draghetti, Delmo	x		x			x	x	x
Drewnowski, Henry A.	x	x		x				
Dunn, Frank E.	x			x		x		
Fadgen, Earl W.	x	1		x				
Granger, Sydney C.	x	x	x	x				

Kane, Ethel A.	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Kane, Hollis F.	x	x					x	x
Karakla, Francis T.	x	x	x	x			x	
Kerr, Arthur W.	x	x	x	x	x		x	
Kerr, Paul R.	x	x						x
Light, Clyde E.	x	x	x	x				x
Matheson, Matilda P.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Newcomb, Daniel L.	x	x						
Pond, Everett H.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rising, Leonard P.	x						x	
Sliech, Steven W., Jr.	x							
Taylor, Donald H.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Taylor, Richard M.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
White, Douglas C.	x							
Wiley, John J., Jr.	1							

## PRECINCT 3

Alberghini, Mary A.	1	x	x	x			x	
Borgatti, Edward G.	x	x					x	x
Borgatti, Paul R.		x						
Borgatti, Richard F.	1							
Cammissa, Marco	x	x	x				x	x
Cleary, Gerald	1	1						
D'Amato, Paul J.	1	x	x			x	x	
D'Amato, Ralph J.	x	x		x	x	x	x	
DePalma, Louis							x	x
DiDonato, Anthony F.	x	x						x
Drew, Frederick A.	x	x	x	x			x	
Ferrari, Joseph J.	x		x				x	x
Fleming, George T.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Giordano, Pasquale A.			x	x				x
Gravel, Charles	x	x	x				x	
Harris, Raymond E.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hart, Francis H.		x						
Malone, Albert A.	1	1						
Mason, Gerald J.	x							
Mastroianni, Louis A.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Mercadante, Roland	x	x						
Napolitan, F. Joseph	x	x		x				x
Oliver, Kenneth M.	x	x	x	x	x	x		
Romanowicz, Antoni W.	x	x	x	x			x	
Russo, Thomas	x	1		x	x	x		
Shea, John J.	1	1	x					x
Skolnick, Barbara	1	x	x	x				
Skolnick, David	1	x	x	x				
Watson, Robert	x	x	x			x		x
Zanotti, Angelo Peter	x	x					x	x

# PRECINCT 4

	Annual 2-16-63	2-23-63	7-8-63	9-16-63	9-23-63	9-28-63	12-19-63
Adams, Paul J., Jr.	x x				x x		
Begley, Paul M.	1 x		x x x x				
Carlson, C. Edwin, Jr.	1						
Cascio, Elmer	1 x						
Casciello, Thomas H.	x x						
Chandler, Gordon H.	x x	x	x				
Clark, James	x x	x x x		x			
Dacey, Frederick T.			x x x x	x			
Diefenderfer, Richard P.	x		x	x x			
Draghetti, Louis D.	x x	x x x x					
Edwards, A. Stanley	x x	x x x x					
Gallerani, Alfred	x x	x x x x					
Hall, Ernest R.							
Kusiak, Frank J., Jr.	x 1						
Lafleur, Irving R.	x				x		
Lockhart, Benjamin T.	1 x		x x x				
Mikszewski, John H.	x 1	x	x				
Moore, Leslie, J., Jr.	x x	x x		x x			
Moore, Rita, G.	x x	x		x x			
O'Keefe, James A.	1 x	x	x x x				
Oliver, Ralph M.	x x	x x x x					
Pond, Kenneth M.	x x						
Progulske, Theodore, A., Jr.	x x		x x x				
Ramah, Joseph P.	x 1			x			
Safford, Etewart R.					x x		
Zerra, Jerry L.	x x		x x x x				
Zucco, Nicholas		x				x	
Elasmar, James J.	x x	x		x x			
Toelken, Richard W.	1 x	x x x x					
Moreno, Valentine R.	x x	x x		x x			

# PRECINCT 5

Atwater, James S.	x x x x x x x
Bodurtha, Dudley K.	1 x x x x
Cadorete, Rene B.	x x x x x x
Cartello, Charles J.	
Cascio, Thomas E.	x x x x x x
Decker, Kenneth	x x x x x
DeForge, Philip J.	1 x x x
Della Giustina, Joseph	1 1 x x x x
Doolittle, Dorothy	x x x x x x
Durocher, Roland G.	x x
Emerson, Frederick C.	x 1 x
Fullam, Harold A.	x x x x x
Grasso, Alfred M.	1 x x
Grasso, Frank A.	x x x x
Hastings, John N.	1 x x x x x
Hembdt, Phillips V.	x x x x x
Ingalls, Alfred E.	x x x x
Jamrog, Stephen R.	
Kistner, Charles L.	x x x x x
Lawson, Henry W.	x x x x x x

Mattoon, Donald H.	x x x x x x
Perry, M. Alice	x x x x
Peterson, Priscilla D.	x x x x x
Query, Paul G.	1 1 x x
Richards, Eleanor E.	x 1 x
Scala, Salvatore J.	x x x x x x
Stebbins, Alfred D., Jr.	x 1 x
Sullivan, Eugene F.	x x x x x x
Tatro, Paul A.	x x x x x
Wallace, Louise R.	x x x x x x

# PRECINCT 6

Atwater, Ronald C.	x x x x
Birchall, James W.	x 1
Charest, Raymond E.	x x x x x x
Chriscola, Frank, Jr.	x x x x x
Chriscola, John J.	x 1 x
Cirillo, Arthur Joseph	1 x x x x
Davenport, Ellen V.	x x x x x x x
Cirillo, John B.	x x x x
Davenport, Richard Mark	1 x x x x x x
Dowd, Bernard J.	x x x x x x
Edwards, Joseph M.	x x x x x
Fitzgerald, John J., Jr.	1 x x x
Fuchs, Arthur J.	1 x x x x
Hall, Robert W.	1
Hallock, Howard H.	x x x x x x
Hastings, Judson W., Jr.	x
Hine, Wadsworth C.	x x
Hyland, Thomas E.	x x x x x x
Magovern, John N.	x x
Notman, Bruce P.	x x x x x
O'Connor, Francis W.	1 x
Orr, Richard M.	x x
Porter, John G.	x x x x
Reidy, James A.	
Robinson, George D., Jr.	x x x x x x
Rosati, John F.	x x x x x
Shaylor, Douglas M.	x x x x x x x
Tatro, Louis R.	x x x x
Zavarella, Arthur	x x x x
Leger, Leo J., Jr.	x x

# MEMBERS AT LARGE

Kerr, Walter T.	x x x x x
Cleary, Francis P.	x x x x
Gallano, David C.	x x x x x
Teahan, John J.	x x x x x
Balboni, Ronald C.	1 x x x x x
Connelly Edward W.	x
Letellier, Brandon N.	x x x x x x x

# Agawam Public Schools

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

September 5, 1963 to June 17, 1964

### 1963

September	5	Wednesday	Schools open — beginning of school year
October	18	Friday	Schools closed — Teachers' Convention Day
November	11	Monday	Schools closed — Veterans' Day
	28	Thursday	Schools closed — Thanksgiving Vacation
	29	Friday	Wednesday, November 27 — schools close Senior High 11:00 a.m.; Junior High 11:30 a.m.; Elementary Schools 12:00 noon
December	2	Monday	Schools reopen
	20	Friday	Schools close for Christmas Vacation Regular sessions will be held this day

### 1964

January	2	Thursday	Schools reopen
February	14	Friday	Schools close for Midwinter Vacation Regular sessions will be held this day
	24	Monday	Schools reopen
March	27	Friday	Schools closed — Good Friday
April	17	Friday	Schools closed for Spring Vacation Regular sessions will be held this day
	27	Monday	Schools reopen
June	17	Friday	Schools close for Summer Vacation End of school year

### 183 School Days

September 4, 1963 to December 20, 1963 — 74 days; January 2, 1964 to February 14, 1964 — 32 days; February 24, 1964 to April 17, 1964 — 39 days; April 27, 1964 to June 17, 1964 — 38 days.



## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

James Clark  
Telephone 739-1564  
Address: 28 Reed Street

### SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Junior High School Building — 8:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.  
Appointments should be arranged in advance

### SUPERINTENDENT'S SECRETARY

Mrs. Kathleen Arnold

### HOURS IN SESSION

Senior High School  
8:00 a. m. — 2:00 p. m.

Junior High School  
8:30 a. m. — 2:30 p. m.

Robinson Park Elementary School  
8:30 a. m. — 2:30 p. m.

Phelps, Danahy, Peirce, Granger and South  
9:00 a. m. — 3:00 p. m.

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE

	Term Expires
David C. Gallano, Chairman .....	1964
Benjamin S. Bassani, Secretary .....	1965
Paul J. Adams .....	1965
Philip J. DeForge .....	1964
F. Joseph Napolitan .....	1966
Francis J. Rosso .....	1966

## School Committee

The Agawam Junior High School cafeteria was completed and opened for use in June 1963.

The Granger School Addition Building Committee recommended to the September special town meeting an appropriation of \$348,000. for an eleven room addition to this school. The sum also included money for renovation and re-equipping of the original cafeteria to feed the children of this twenty room building. The Agawam School Committee proposed at the same meeting the purchase of six more acres of land for the Granger School as requested by the School Building Assistance Commission in Boston. The committee also asked for twenty-five acres of land for a future junior high in the Feeding Hills area. All articles were approved.

The average school population growth during the past seven years has been 150 pupils per year. The addition to the Granger School will ease the pressure in the Feeding Hills area, and will accommodate grades 1 thru 6 in September of 1964. Students will not have to be transported from the Feeding Hills area to the Robinson Park School.

The 1200 pupil senior high school enrolled 1207 students in September 1963. It will house about 1250 in September of 1964. The continuing overloading at the senior high will not be relieved until the new junior high is constructed.

The school committee approved normal maintenance in eight buildings and reports they are in good condition. Completion of the installation of automatic radiator valves and pneumatic controls in the junior high heating system is included in the 1964 budget.

Educational progress in the Agawam Public School system has been constantly checked thru bi-monthly reports from the administration in the form of ability tests, achievement tests, college board scores, national merit examination results, and oral reports. The results are also available to any interested parent or adult Agawam resident.

The 1964 school budget — hammered out through several special meetings — is \$1,748,327., an increase of \$77,662. over 1963. This money provides for one hundred fifty more students, raises to hold existing teachers and attract new staff members needed in 1964. The budget increase is 4½% compared to a 7% increase last year and a state average increase of 10%. The school committee reports a return of approximately \$31,400. to the Excess and Deficiency Fund from the 1963 budget. The balance in the instruction account is due to retirement of teachers and principals on maximum salary, and the loss of staff members to higher salaried communities. This positive balance this year could, another year, be a negative amount in the same percentage.

The Agawam School Committee's meetings are posted and open to the public. The committee will review any complaint not satisfied through the teacher, supervisors, or the administrative staff.

A word of thanks is expressed to the student body, the teaching staff, the administrative staff, the town officials, and to taxpayers for the fine support given to education in Agawam.

## **Superintendent of Schools**

We come to the conclusion of another school budget year. Parents, taxpayers, and town officials undoubtedly would like a report on educational status, progress, plant conditions and future needs, Agawam school costs, and a few recommendations.

**Educational Status:** 65% of the 1963 Agawam High School graduates went on to higher education. This figure represents a growth from 38% in 1954. An unsolicited report from Massachusetts Institute of Technology on seven Agawam students accepted since 1947 showed all were above average in their first semester

at MIT. Colleges consider the secondary school training responsible for the success or failure of a student in his first college semester. Percentile scores on college board examinations and national merit tests show steady improvement. Agawam High School graduates have won advanced placement in English, mathematics, science, and languages in many New England colleges and universities. Elementary and junior high school achievement tests show medians well above national norms.

**Progress:** Curriculum revision in social studies grades 2 thru 8 has been completed in 1963. Senior high staff members have worked on coordinating programs in math and social studies with the junior high program. Forty-four staff members took a course in modern math for elementary school teachers. This course was sponsored by the Agawam Public School System and presented by Mr. David Wilder, a math major and sixth grade teacher in the Robinson Park School. Mr. Wilder was awarded a grant at the University of Vermont and took an intensive eight week course in modern math this past summer. About twelve to fifteen hundred elementary students immediately benefited from this logical and interesting presentation of mathematics. Twenty-two of our staff members from junior high, senior high, and elementary schools took the modern math course at the junior high school during the spring semester.

**Plant Conditions and Future Needs:** The maintenance supervisor and janitorial staff have kept the buildings in good condition. The school committee approved a room of new furniture for Peirce, Danahy, and the junior high school to help modernize each of these plants. The installation of controls and the new boiler have improved the heating at the junior high school. We hope to convert the old cafeteria in the junior high to a band and choral room. Recent reports from the Danahy school state that the heating has improved in the cafeteria. The 1958 survey committee report carried recommendations for school plant construction through 1962. This committee advised that instead of a new report perhaps the 1962 master plan by Technical Planning Associates could be considered for the period from 1962 on. This report is printed and available to taxpayers in Agawam.

**School Costs:** Agawam costs per pupil of \$352.29 are well below the over-all per pupil costs for support in the State of \$410.00. Our pupil transportation costs are high. Teachers salaries remain at or a little below the group median. Budget increases during the past two years were well below average.

**A Few Recommendations:** Kindergartens are needed. More sidewalks should be built to hold down transportation costs and free education schedules. One or two more elementary school sites should be secured for future needs. Teachers and administrative salary schedules should be kept competitive.

The contribution to education in Agawam by Miss Mary E. McDowell, Principal of the Benjamin J. Phelps School, Miss Mary T. Lynch, Principal of the Robinson Park Elementary school, and Miss Marjorie Ward, history teacher at the senior high school, retirees in June of 1963 will long be remembered.

The Superintendent of Schools wishes to thank the school committee, students, teachers, principals, supervisors, town officials, parents and taxpayers for the help and support to the Agawam Public School system.



# Financial Statement

December 31, 1963

Town Appropriation ..... \$1,671,465.00

## EXPENDITURES

General Expense .....	\$ 27,524.36
Expenses of Instruction .....	1,136,133.68
Textbooks .....	29,529.59
Stationery and Supplies .....	20,305.02
Janitors' Salaries .....	110,921.73
Fuel and Light .....	62,420.19
Misc. Operating Expense & Janitors' Supplies .....	21,220.25
Repairs and Replacements .....	41,780.77
Libraries .....	3,114.66
Health .....	19,609.80
Transportation .....	106,997.10
Insurance .....	15,109.56
Tuition .....	14,854.31
Miscellaneous .....	1,639.13
Adult Education .....	7,827.12
Outlay, New Equipment .....	10,341.34
School Athletics .....	4,477.39
Industrial Arts .....	5,921.65
Travel Outside Commonwealth .....	280.08
	<hr/>
	\$1,640,007.73

## REIMBURSEMENT BY THE COMMONWEALTH AND OTHER RECEIPTS

	1962	1963
Chapter 70 (Teachers' Salaries) .....	\$ 174,097.65	\$ 176,047.65
Chapter 71 (Transportation) .....	86,530.20	80,874.60
Adult Education .....	3,692.65	3,321.65
Vocational Home Economics .....	1,451.60	
Trade School Tuition .....	8,985.01	9,536.77
Transportation of Pupils to Vocational Schools .....	476.55	360.03
Tuition and Transportation of State Wards .....	1,043.00	1,107.85
Tuition received from other Towns .....	209.00	779.16
Receipts from Industrial Arts Department .....	554.98	756.83
Receipts from Rental of School Property .....	796.00	1,024.00
Special Education .....	14,943.38	15,975.00
National Defense Education Funds .....	14,694.77	1,294.59
Recreation — Physically handicapped and mentally retarded ....	789.70	508.30
Miscellaneous Receipts .....	195.42	275.84
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 308,459.91	\$ 291,862.27

## COST OF SCHOOLS TO TOWN

Total Expenditures by the Town .....	\$1,525,991.47	\$1,640,007.73
Reimbursements .....	308,459.91	291,862.27
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,217,531.56	\$1,348,145.46

## High School Principal

I herewith present the annual report of the Senior High School.

In 1958, the school was evaluated by a team of educational experts representing the New England Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The chairman was Massachusetts Director of Secondary Education.

The committee was very thorough in its investigation giving consideration to courses of study, training and number of faculty members, physical equipment of building and general well-being of school including morale, deportment, success of students, etc.

At that time, the school was rated among the best in New England and its membership in the Association was extended ten years. Concomitantly, it established a reputation with the State Department of Education. The former gives the school standing outside of Massachusetts and the latter within the state.

In the interim since 1958, teachers in the several subject areas have made sincere and critical inspections of the courses of study annually. They have weeded out the obsolete and introduced new ideas which appeared to be reasonable and valuable. Accordingly, the school has retained the same high rating.

During those years, weighing subject matter and educational methods has been difficult because of the great number of startling innovations advanced by members of the educational profession and groups outside but affiliated to a lesser or greater extent with it.

Among those proposed are team teaching, homogeneous grouping, accelerated courses for the high ability groups, subject presentations geared for the slow learners, closed circuit TV, teaching machines and language laboratories. All have been scrutinized with the thought of inclusion or rejection.

The students have participated successfully in numerous examinations both in national and local competition. These included the College Entrance and affiliated Preliminary and Merit, National Office Managers in spelling and arithmetic and the Massachusetts Office of Employment.

Last year, the school's average in the College Entrance Examination was comfortably higher than the national level and results in other tests are on a par. Requests have come from recognized publishers for the use of certain classes to take new offerings for the establishment of national norms.

Currently, our graduates are represented in all types of schools for advanced education and many have received advanced placement in several subject areas. Our graduates are also represented in a great variety of businesses and industries. For many years, all the girls who pursued a complete commercial course were placed in positions during May.

Again the school is over-crowded and presently there are three roving teachers who have no specific rooms but use any available one. It is very undesirable because it necessitates carrying of books and other effects by the teacher and curtails the use of chalkboard space. In addition, some classes are large.

At the end of last year Miss Marjorie Ward, who was a member of the original faculty of the school, retired. Throughout the many years she was a dedicated teacher; one who understood young people and how to teach them effectively. In addition she was a very gracious lady. It was with regret that we saw her leave, but all wished her good health and enjoyment of well-earned leisure.

It is a pleasure to include the names of the students who achieved membership in the National Honor Society.

Geraldine E. Alfano	Patricia Ann Kane	Andrew G. Raguskus
Jacqueline C. Andor	Suzanne M. Karakla	Joyce M. Shaker
Jeanne L. Borgatti	John F. Kosinski	Cynthia L. Statkun
Carol Ann Bowden	John F. Litchfield	Louise A. Vaillant
Sharon A. Compton	Joan V. Magistri	Diane C. Wallace
Cynthia DiVirgilio	Elliott D. Moren	Mary Jane Wells
Paul R. Halbach	John T. Morin	Walter G. Willard, Jr.
Janet W. Hastings	Shirley A. Overstreet	Antonia S. T. Zerra
Louis J. Hecker		

The students whose names follow are the recipients of prizes for extraordinary work in the subjects noted —

Citizenship — Daughters of the American Revolution ..... Judith Sarat  
 U. S. History Award — Veterans of Foreign Wars — \$10 ..... John Morin  
 Problems of Democracy — Walter S. Kerr Barracks #396 —

World War I Veterans — \$10 ..... Janet DeMont  
 International Relations Prize — Agawam Women's Club — \$5 ..... Catherine Ramah  
 Personality Club Awards — \$10 each ..... Judith Sarat  
 Merrill Tisdell

Excellence in Social Studies — Agawam Junior Women's Club — \$25 ..... Diane Wallace  
 Bookkeeping Award — \$5 ..... Sandra Wilkins  
 Commercial Award — Agawam Women's Club — Stenography — \$5 ..... Jeanne Borgatti  
 Third National Bank (Agawam Branch) —

Highest Commercial Award — \$25 ..... Cynthia DiVirgilio  
 Latin — Benjamin J. Phelps Award — Agawam Lions Club — \$10 ..... John Litchfield  
 Latin — Agawam High School Latin Club — \$5 ..... Suzanne Karakla  
 Foreign Language Award — Agawam Junior Women's Club — \$25 ..... Cynthia Statkun  
 Music — Agawam Women's Club — \$5 ..... Albert Baggetta  
 Glee Club — Arion Award — Medal ..... Lesley Cole  
 Band — Arion Award — Medal ..... Andrew Raguskus  
 Art — Agawam Women's Club — \$5 ..... Pamela Nelson  
 Industrial Arts Award — Veterans of Foreign Wars — \$5 ..... Robert Stawasz  
 Drafting Award — Crompton and Knowles, Inc. — \$5 ..... Richard Lake  
 Audio Visual Aids Prize — Outstanding achievement in that field — \$30 ..... Andre Fontaine  
 Mathematics and Science — Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute — Medal ..... Geraldine Alfano  
 Excellence in Mathematics — \$10 each ..... Joan Magistri  
 Walter Willard

Julian Magiera Student Council Award — Class of '43 — \$5 ..... Martin McMahon  
 Felix DePalma Mathematics Prize — \$25 each ..... Diane Wallace  
 Elliott Moren

Ruth N. Hoyer Award for Nursing — \$10 ..... Suzanne Karakla  
 Science — Bausch & Lomb — Medal ..... Andrew Raguskus  
 Science Award — Agawam Junior Women's Club — \$25 ..... Elliott Moren  
 Two Year Student Librarians — For Exceptional Service to the School

on the Library Staff — \$25 each ..... Diana Lang, Patricia Murphy  
 Michael Bitgood, Guy Humiston

English Award — Agawam Women's Club — \$5 ..... Diane Wallace  
 English Award — Outstanding Work in General Commercial English — \$5 .... Robert Stawasz



Victor Emmanuel Auxiliary — Excellence in English — \$25 .....	Antonia Zerra
Clarissa H. Phelps English Prize — \$10 .....	Carol Bowden
Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cataldo, Agawam Food Mart —	
Highest Academic Averages for Boys and Girls — \$50 each .....	Geraldine Alfano
	Elliott Moren

The school is aware of its indebtedness to the above donors. Often, the direction of a student's life is guided by such gifts.

It is hoped that the co-curricular program had an appeal to each student because participation in it provides learning not contained in the academic organizations.

Success of a school is dependent on a combination of forces equally valuable, an interested Superintendent of Schools, a sympathetic School Committee, generous citizens, an able and conscientious faculty and a loyal student body.

## Junior High School Principal

The addition of a new cafeteria to our Junior High School is deeply appreciated by the student body and the faculty. This modern facility has made it possible to add five minutes to each class period as well as providing us with one of the finest and best equipped cafeterias in the state. Our sincere thanks go to Mr. Francis Rosso, Chairman, Mr. Paul Adams, Treasurer, Mr. Roland Durocher, Secretary, Mr. Albert Christopher and Mr. Lawrence Menard, who were members of the building committee. The citizens of Agawam are to be commended for providing this modern lunchroom which will seat 350 students at one sitting.

Last June we lost seven teachers with a total of thirty-one years of teaching experience. However, we have been able to fill these positions with teachers who bring a total of eleven years of teaching experience to us.

As parking space is greatly needed it seems advisable to blacktop the Reed Street lot. This additional parking area would be most helpful since the school is used for voting purposes as well as other public functions.

Last spring the Agawam Lions Club donated an eye testing machine to our school. This modern piece of equipment is used to test the sight of all of our junior high school students. This generous donation is appreciated.

Now that we have a new cafeteria, we are planning to use the original cafeteria for a band and choral music room. By installing an acoustical ceiling, we will be able to hold all of our music classes in a room better suited for this purpose.

During the past year some of our staff members have revised the English course of study for our school and others are engaged in a similar project in revising our social studies program. This requires many hours of research and study but it is well worth the effort as we are updating these studies. Others from our faculty attended summer sessions under federal grants or entirely at their own expense to improve in their particular subject field.

We are one of the few schools in Western Massachusetts which does not provide some experience in modern foreign language to our students. It is my understanding that the school committee has made provisions for hiring such a teacher, however, teachers in this field are very difficult to find. It is my hope that we can start our school year of 1964-65 with a language teacher.

Again this year our student body has made several fine contributions to our school through the student activity account. The income from this fund comes primarily from the annual magazine campaign. Some of the outstanding gifts from the students were:

Choral risers for the music department .....	\$ 218.40
Scholarship fund for a high school senior .....	200.00
Display case in front corridor .....	910.00
50 folding chairs for the music department .....	179.50
Agawam "A's", school pins, and other awards .....	296.95
Coat racks .....	100.00
Library books .....	125.00
Physical Education Department .....	102.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,131.85

The morale of our student body and faculty remains at a high level. I attribute this in part to the effort made by you Mr. Clark and our school committee in establishing policies which make us progressive. Our thanks go to the citizens of Agawam for providing these educational facilities to the youth of Agawam.

## School Health

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. Healthy development of the child is of basic importance. The ability to live harmoniously in a changing total environment is essential to such development.

The enrollment for 1963 — 4167. Dr. Wein and Dr. Kohn gave physical examinations to students in grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, and also to new students. Dr. Paley, school dentist, cared for 210 children at the dental clinic. Mantoux tests were given to students in grades 1, 7, and 11. Tetanus shots were given to freshmen. The Board of Health and health nurses assisted. X-rays were given to all new teachers and personnel. Ears and eyes of all children were tested. Eyes — 3500 tested and 220 failed; ears — 3000 tested and 90 failed. The Lions Club helped with glasses and also gave a new Titmus Vision Tester to the junior high school. One child went to Monson School and one child was referred to the Boston Heart Clinic.

Conferences were held with all principals and guidance teachers. Mr. Peters from Northampton State Hospital was a great help to us in working with mental

and emotionally disturbed children. Conferences were held with parents and eight children were sent to camp.

The school nurses attended all state meetings. Mrs. Kane, Mrs. Chandler, and Mrs. Wilson took a six week course at Northampton State Hospital. All nurses met with Miss Fitzgerald, State Supervisor of Special Education, for instruction on required forms.

Newer concepts of health education which involve a specific responsibility in the school health program have been established.

The school nurses sincerely appreciate the cooperation of the superintendent, principals, teachers, and parents. We also thank the Lions Club for their aid in furnishing glasses and the eye testing machine.

## Adult Education

In its twelfth year of operation the Agawam Adult Education program continued its growth in the number of pupils, the number of courses available, and the number of those receiving diplomas. This year nineteen adults received their evening school diplomas, while four others took courses which made it possible for them to receive their regular Agawam High School diploma. Approximately 525 adults registered in one or more courses available to them.

In April, the sixth annual exhibit of crafts and creative arts was held in the Agawam Junior High School auditorium for two days and evenings and was very well attended. The instructors believe that this display of talent and work has increased interest in the practical arts program available to the residents of Agawam.

A twelve week course in Modern Mathematics was given for school administrators and teachers in the spring, through the cooperation of the University Extension program and the Agawam Adult Education division.

I wish to thank the school committee for its continued belief and support in the adult education program and the teachers for their splendid cooperation at all times.

### SCHOOL LUNCH REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1963

#### PARTICIPATION:

	Phelps	Gran- ger	Peirce	Danahy	South	Robin- son	Jr. High	High	Total
Average DAILY Attendance	499	306	217	230	382	484	651	1091	3860
Average Served DAILY to Children									
Type A Lunches with Milk	294	206	105	162	248	372	422	818	2627
Milk Only	158	75	81	49	122	104	120	146	855
Total Type A Lunches Served during the year:	458,304								
Needy Lunches Served during the year:	3,520								
Needy Milk Served during the year:	1,634								



# FINANCIAL REPORT:

Balance December 31, 1962 .....	\$ 20,489.45
Lunchroom Receipts .....	133,200.89
U.S.D.A. Claims Received .....	38,256.04
<hr/>	
Total Cash on Hand .....	\$191,946.38
Less Disbursements .....	171,930.86
<hr/>	
Balance December 31, 1963 .....	\$ 20,015.52
U.S.D.A. Claims Due .....	8,481.52
<hr/>	
	\$ 28,497.04
Less Outstanding Bills .....	8,817.63
<hr/>	
Balance .....	\$ 19,679.41

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL POPULATION — 2266

PHELPS 528	DANAHY 251	ROBINSON 514	PEIRCE 226	GRANGER 342	SOUTH 405
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## SECONDARY SCHOOL POPULATION — 1885

JUNIOR HIGH 682	SENIOR HIGH 1203
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## Jury List

- Albano, Alice G. — Housewife  
59 Simpson Circle
- Balboni, Walter A. — Dental Technican  
134 Walnut Street
- Balthazar, George — Group Leader  
80 Brookline Avenue
- Barden, David C. — Mason  
67 Carr Avenue
- Barker, Beatrice M. — Bookkeeper  
209 Elm Street
- Barufaldi, Daniel J. — Hdwe. Str. Prop.  
132 Liberty Street
- Bassani, Benjamin — Sales Representative  
74 Spencer Street
- Bedard, Alda — Typist-Clerk  
371 So. Westfield Street
- Berthiaume, Francis A. — Gilbert & Barker  
148 Walnut Street
- Biglin, James W. — Laborer  
597 Springfield Street
- Bitgood, John C., Jr. — Production Control  
1010 Suffield Street Clerk
- Borgatti, Anna F. — At home  
244 Walnut Street
- Bouley, Edmund Albert — Die Press Oper.  
27 Letendre Avenue
- Botelho, Benjamin — Laboratory Techn.  
97 Homer Street
- Bottaro, Ralph J. — Self-Employed Rest.  
228 Walnut Street Business
- Bradway, Earl C. — Machinist  
316 No. West Street
- Bragg, Evelyn A. — Receptionist  
79 Doane Avenue
- Breviglieri, Franklin L. — Design Draftsman  
58 Harvey Johnson Drive
- Cadorette, Rene B. — Hamilton Standard  
7 Edward Street
- Cantelli, Albert A. — Machine Operator  
117 Franklin Street
- Capitanio, Francis — Iron Worker  
130 Leonard Street
- Cardone, Joseph L. — Grocery & Meat  
232 Elm Street Mkt. Owner
- Carlson, Elsie C. — Home Maker  
7 Cooper Street
- Cassanelli, Rita A. — Sewing Machine  
115 Edward Street
- Castelli, Sileo Silvio — Prop.  
28 King Street
- Colli, Ida — Instructor  
33 Prospect Street
- Crichton, Frank G. — Roofing  
444 No. Westfield Street
- Crowley, Florence E. — Housewife  
209 Maple Street
- Chapman, Virginia F. — Clerk  
111 Adams Street
- Christopher, Delia A. — Rag Sorter  
113 Bridge Street
- Christopher, Jennie M. — Housewife  
170 Meadow Street
- Clifford, Oscar J., Jr. — Field Ser. Engineer  
126 Albert Street
- Dane, Edwin S. — Bldg. Materials  
29 Florida Drive
- Danford, Joan M. — Western Mass. Co-  
55 So. Park Terrace Ordinator Holy  
Family Guild
- Daubitz, Walter F. — President - Oxford  
206 Maynard Street Tool & Gage Co.
- DeForge, Philip J. — New Eng. Tel. & Tel.  
137 Florida Drive
- Deloghia, Irene J. — Office Worker  
121 Fairview Street
- DeMars, Augustus J. — Shipping Clerk  
86 Ottawa Street
- DeSimone, Lottie F. — Waitress  
72 Albert Street
- DeSimone, Stephen R., Jr. — Foreman  
72 Albert Street
- DeVecchi, Agnes A. — Office Clerk  
10 Winthrop Street
- Driscoll, Ann Margaret — Unemployed  
58 Bessbrook Street
- Dufault, Leo J. — Maint. Welder  
18 Portland Street
- Fenton, Phyllis — None  
21 Ridge Avenue
- Feroli, Dante A. — Supervisor  
13 Horsham Place
- Ferranti, William R. — Supervisor  
101 High Street
- Field, Edward F. — Engineering Tech.  
176 North Street
- Fini, Philip — Farmer  
43 Harding Street

- Flaro, William P. — Contractor  
115 Liberty Street
- Foley, John James — Shaft Straightner  
45 Sunset Terrace
- Fountain, Harold — Toolmaker  
18 James Avenue
- Fuchs, Barbara P. — Office Super.  
16 Alfred Street
- Fuller, Malcolm H., Jr. — Landscaping  
65 Central Street
- Fusick, Joseph M. — Unemployed  
554 Mill Street
- Giordano, Freddy J. — Tobacco Farm  
94 Garden Street
- Greenfield, George — Poultry Farmer  
831 So. Westfield Street
- Hayes, Kathleen E. — Office Manager  
75 Silver Street
- Hebert, Alfred J. — Supervisor A & P  
1152 Main Street
- Hersey, Robert F. — Premoid Corp.  
385 Springfield Street
- Holloway, Clarence E. — West. Mass. Elec.  
278 No. Westfield Street
- Horne, Edward Robson — Asst. Train Desp.  
74 Springfield Street
- Jenks, Frank H. — Machinist  
21 James Street
- Jenks, Prentice R. — DePalma Bus Co.  
262 No. Westfield Street
- Kellogg, Alvin R., Jr. — Valley Bank  
173 No. Westfield Street Bank Teller
- Kellogg, Everett A. — Meat Cutter  
49 South Street
- Keough, Harriet S. — Saleswoman  
102 Doane Avenue
- Kibbe, Stuart A., Jr. — Hamilton Standard  
40 Doane Avenue
- Lavalette, Francis J. — Bdwy. Office Sup.  
16 Ralph Street
- Ledger, Leo J., Jr. — Electrical Tester &  
393 Silver Street Inspector
- Leporati, Albert A. — Welder  
1026 Springfield Street
- Letellier, Rose R. — Execu. Secretary  
186 Maple Street
- Light, Roderic H. — U. S. Rubber Co.  
1054 Shoemaker Lane
- Liptak, George S. — Electrician  
31 Brookline Avenue
- Loncto, Gertrude M. — Clerk  
46 Cleveland Street
- Longhi, Carmino, Jr. — Truck Driver  
148 Liberty Street
- Losito, Michael Peter — Zielinski Bros.  
489 Shoemaker Lane
- Lovotti, Louis J. — Insurance Agent  
30 George Street
- Lowell, Sally F. — Housewife  
29 Albert Street
- Magistri, Virginio — Hydraulic Press &  
107 Franklin Street Assembler
- Malley, Wallace E. — Sheetmetal Mechanic  
71 Doane Avenue
- Margolis, Albert B. — Fruit Manager  
195 Cooper Street
- Maule, Bruno — Auditor  
81 River Road
- Mendes, Joaquin M. — Construction  
18 Begley Street
- Mercadante, Anthony — Foundry Worker  
15 Agnoli Place
- Moore, Rita G. — Housewife  
41 Federal Avenue
- Morin, John M. — Airline Pilot  
208 Adams Street
- Morley, Kenneth I. — Milk Dealer  
41 Ottawa Street
- Murphy, Richard H. — Perkins Gear  
21 Annable Street
- Myers, Joseph W. — Sheet Metal Worker  
17 Hall Street
- McCarthy, Walter F. — Conductor  
280 North Street
- McCobb, Perry A. — Service Eng.  
20 Ridgeway Drive
- McLellan, Kenneth P. — Clerk  
56 River Street
- Nacewicz, Edward S. — Clerk  
66 Norman Terrace
- Newman, Jean M. — Secretary  
194 School Street
- Nutbrown, Wesley H. — Lithograph Oper.  
479 North Street
- O'Connor, Charles G. — Tool Designer  
67 Taft Street
- Oliver, Ralph M. — Machine Set-up  
70 Lealand Avenue
- Osolinski, Peter P. — Tool Maker  
1059 Shoemaker Lane
- Paulson, Charles E. — Artesian well driller  
128 Ridgeway Drive
- Pederzani, Basil — Assembler  
187 Shoemaker Lane



Pedulla, Rose V. — Billing Clerk  
341 Meadow Street

Penna, Alfred R. — Elec. Maint.  
272 High Street

Pernice, Eunice M. — Cashier  
15 Alfred Street

Phaneuf, Annette M. — Secretary  
25 Ley Street

Philbrick, Clarence H., Jr. — Meat Cutter  
100 Sylvan Lane

Pickard, Marguerite C. — Manager  
46 Green Acre Lane

Pisano, Richard E. — Insurance  
83 Oak Hill Avenue

Poggi, Andrew D., Jr. — Methods Eng.  
123 Spencer Street

Pond, Everett H. — Pond-Ekberg Co.  
873 So. Westfield Street

Prior, Hazel M. — Clerk-Typist  
17 No. West Street

Protzenko, Mary — Housewife  
48 Lincoln Street

Remington, Roland R. — Stationary Fireman  
34 Begley Street

Rinaldi, Joseph N. — Mach. Operator  
386 Poplar Street

Russell, Leo B. — Buyer  
497 North Street

Schaedlich, Ernest H. — Gear Grinder  
991 No. Westfield Street

Silvestri, Alfonso A. — Machine Oper.  
67 Highland Street

Smith, Gertrude N. — Secretary  
663 Main Street

Solitario, Frank J. — Mink Farm  
578 No. Westfield Street

Sporbert, Dianne D. — Clerk  
155 Shoemaker Lane

Stefanik, Robert — Vendor Prod. Control  
70 Northwood Street

Sullivan, William J. — Spfld. Water Dept.  
1121 No. West Street

Sutcliffe, Eleanor — Bookkeeper  
122 Southwick Street

Talmadge, Edward W. — Grocery Store  
23 Oak Hill Avenue Prop.

Thompson, Raymond C. — Assembler  
61 Valley Street

Tisdell, Merrill O. — Salesman  
45 Oak Hill Avenue

Toelken, Richard W. — Administrative  
32 Elm Street Engineer

Tower, Donald R. — Foreman  
373 Shoemaker Lane

Trela, Sophie — Housewife  
31 Fairview Street

Vandergrift, Raymond R. — Truck Driver  
98 Homer Street

Woodruff, Branch W. — Pratt & Whitney  
86 Sunset Terrace

Zanotti, Angelo Peter — Papermaker  
140 Franklin Street

*Action in Horseshoe Pitching League at YMCA*



# These Churches Have Had A Great Influence On Our History

## SACRED HEART CHURCH

In the early days of Catholic Church history in Agawam, Catholics living in Feeding Hills attended churches in North Agawam and West Springfield. In the Fall of 1926, the Sacred Heart Church, a small wooden structure, was erected on William Street in Feeding Hills. This was the former St. Anthony's Church which had been dismantled and carried by truck to its present location. At the time it was a mission chapel affiliated with St. Anthony's Church. Stigmatine Fathers from St. Anthony's and St. Ann's parishes said one Mass in the church each Sunday. In the year 1944, Rev. Adolph Ferrari, CPS, was placed in charge of the church, and under his leadership, a kitchen, office and lavatories were added to the original structure.

The late Bishop Thomas M. O'Leary of Springfield raised the Sacred Heart Church from a mission chapel to that of a parish embracing all the territory and Catholics of Feeding Hills in March of 1946. At that time there were one hundred and seventy-five families affiliated with the parish; today, eighteen years later, eight hundred families comprise the membership of the Sacred Heart Church.

In June of 1946, Rev. Leonard Della Badia, CPS, was sent to the newly formed territorial parish. The Catholic Youth Organization was formed in the parish in 1946. In November of 1947 the Rosary Altar Society was established, followed by the Holy Name Society in February, 1947, and the Sacred Heart AC in March, 1948.

In February of 1948, the Homer S. Flower estate on the corner of Springfield, Mill and Poplar Streets, and consisting of 12 acres of land, was purchased by the Sacred Heart Parish as a site for its future church.

In the month of June, 1956, Leonard Della Badia, CPS, was transferred to the Sacred Heart Church, Timmins, Ontario, and Rev. George Linse, CPS, succeeded him as pastor, with Rev. Francis Keefe, CPS, as assistant.

After months of planning and discussions, ground was broken by the Bishop in May of 1958 for the new and modernistic church. The design decided upon was a semi-circular building with many functional aspects. It has a seating capacity of 850

persons with the farthest seat from the altar only thirteen pews distant. A wonderful feature of this design is the fact that regardless where a person may sit, his view will be unobstructed for there are no pillars or posts anywhere inside the church. There is a glass enclosed room in the church, completely soundproof for mothers with small children. For the convenience of the young and old alike, the church has only one step at the entrance. A parking lot sufficiently large to accommodate all cars was erected to one side of the church.

## ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In the year 1924 the Reverend Arthur Wells Brown, then Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd in West Springfield, called at the Phelps home located on Sherman Avenue in Feeding Hills. In conversation with the Phelps he found that there was a small group of Episcopalians living in Agawam. During the next few months this Rector made a survey of the area and found the possibility of establishing a Mission Chapel in Feeding Hills.

The following year, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Decker offered the use of their home for the purpose of beginning a Church school. With encouragement from the nearby Diocesan office a group of fifty children and seven teachers were formed and classes on Sunday were begun. A total of seventy-five Episcopalians were found living in the area and these persons organized themselves into a church group of such progressive spirit that they were given organizational papers by the Diocese and formed into Union with the Convention of that body during the following year 1926.

To encourage the new congregation, the Church of the Good Shepherd in West Springfield donated a portable building which the Agawam congregation could use for Worship. Mr. Arthur Decker donated a piece of land, the local parishioners purchasing two additional lots in order to secure room for future growth. The first service was held in the newly acquired church on Christmas Day. Unfortunately, in 1927 a small but damaging cyclone struck the Feeding Hills area completely destroying the church building.

A building committee comprising Mr. Arthur Decker, Mr. Richard Langdon, Mr.

John McCallister, Mr. Leslie Miller, Mr. Arthur Phelps, Mr. Joseph Smith and Mr. Earle Wentworth was formed and through their efforts a new church building was erected, it being dedicated in the year 1928.

Membership progressed to the point that a new church building was needed and under the leadership of the Reverend Robert B. Lane a new church was constructed in the year 1956.

#### **VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH**

The newest Church in the Connecticut valley is a Community Church. Founded in 1962, the Valley Community Church counts its residence presently in Agawam for its constituency in large part is made up of people of this community. Services are held every Sunday in Old Storowton Church in West Springfield.

The Church emphasizes its non-denominational character and holds affiliation with the National Council of Community Churches at Columbus, Ohio.

It particularly invites those to worship who have no Church home; those also who feel that the Church has a peculiar and relevant contribution to make to society in the name of Christ. It believes in the motto: We agree to differ — Resolve to love — Unite to Serve. Rev. Frank E. Dunn serves as the Minister of this Church.

#### **ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH**

For many years before 1938, most of the Catholics living in Agawam Center were parishioners of the Immaculate Conception Church of West Springfield. In September 1938, the first Mass was celebrated for 135 parishioners in the Agawam Center Town Hall building. Subsequent to the demolition of the old town hall and through the generous invitation of the Agawam Congregational Church, Mass, followed by Catechism, were attended there for the following two years.

With the growth of the Mission increasing weekly, the services were transferred to the Riverside Bowling Alley, through the courtesy of Edward Carroll. The site of the present church was purchased in 1943, mainly through the extraordinary efforts of the Catholic Women's Club. Great cooperation in this project was contributed by the newly formed Catholic Men's Club.

On Sunday, October 7, 1945, Rev. John O'Connell, Pastor of the Mission, broke ground for the new building and on the

completion of the new church, the first Mass was celebrated on Easter Sunday, April 21, 1946. Bishop O'Leary dedicated the first Catholic Church in Agawam Center on September 29, 1946.

Rev. John P. Shannon was appointed as the first resident pastor on December 1, 1946. Masses have increased from a single Mass in 1946 to a crowded five Masses in 1964. In 1954 Rev. George A. Egan was assigned to St. John's as assistant and in 1959 he was succeeded by the present curate Rev. Joseph O'Neil.

In 1958, St. John the Evangelist Ladies Guild was established to add assistance to activities of the Church. During 1963 over 1200 children of school age attended Christian Doctrine Classes. Recreational facilities have been made available to the parish by the purchase and development of a 19 acre athletic and pavillion on Leonard Street.

#### **SAINTE THERESE DE L'ENFANT JESUS CHURCH**

The first Catholic Church in Agawam was established in 1873 by the French speaking people and was called Saint Williams. The first Priest was Reverend Louis W. Gagnier and it was he who was responsible for the building of the first church at the corner of Church and Bridge Streets.

In 1883 Saint Williams had its first resident pastor, Reverend E. Pelletier. Since that time 18 other pastors have served.

The church, early in its life, operated a four room Parochial School in a building at the rear of the church and continued it until 1923, when the church and school building were burned. At one time St. Theresa's parish had two missions: one in West Springfield and one in Longmeadow.

In 1927, a new brick church was built at the corner of High and Bridge Streets in North Agawam during the Pastorate of Father Alfred Potvin and the name was changed to Saint Theresa. A rectory was constructed adjoining the church and later on another residential house was purchased as a school and social center. After the fire, the old St. Williams Church was converted to a parish hall which is still in use today at the corner of Church and Bridge Streets.

Saint Therese de l'Enfant Jesus parish was intended primarily to serve the French speaking population.

The parish is now served by Rev. Anthony J. Menard.



## LAY MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

In 1799, seven years after Bishop Francis Asbury established a Methodist Society in Springfield, a chapel was built facing the Feeding Hills Common or the site of the present Lay Memorial Methodist Church. The first Methodist Society was formerly organized in 1802.

This chapel was later moved to Agawam Center, and was used by the Congregational and Baptist Societies. In 1840, the Methodist Church was organized in the south part of town. In 1850, they built a new church on the present site.

On February 14, 1899, this building was destroyed by fire. A new church was erected and dedicated in 1900. It included a small chapel and social room. In 1906, this building was moved back on the present lot to become the present social room and kitchen. A new sanctuary was erected and furnished as a gift from Edwin R. Lay of Westfield, in memory of his grandfather, Gibbons Lay, who was an organizer of the Methodist Society in 1802.

In 1855, Agawam was incorporated as a Town, and the first town meeting was held in the Methodist Church on June 12, 1855. In 1869, the Methodist church acquired a parsonage at 86 So. Westfield Street, which was sold in 1963; and a parsonage purchased at 108 Kensington Street.

Regular services have been held since around 1836, with seventy-seven ministers having served the church, in addition to the numerous circuit riders who served the church in its infant days. Rev. Kenneth Thornton is the present minister serving the church.

## ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH

In the Spring of 1919, the Pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Springfield, the Reverend Anthony Dalla Porta, CPS, was authorized to erect a mission church for families of Italian extraction living in West Springfield, Mittineague, North Agawam, and Agawam. The Reverend Raymond Dalla Porta, CPS, was appointed as the first Rector and at this time, a portable, pre-fabricated building was purchased and erected at the corner of Cooley and Walnut Streets, North Agawam. It was dedicated to Saint Anthony of Padua, as its titular Saint and Patron. This mission church

served 125 families and since that time has grown to over 350 families of Italian extraction in the North Agawam area.

In 1925, the original church having outgrown its quarters, a new church was erected at the corner of Bridge and Maple Streets, opposite the Danahy Elementary School.

Rev. Charles Zanotti, CPS, was the first Rector of the new church. He was followed by Rev. Michael Madussi, Rev. Julius Valentinelli, CPS, Rev. Henry Gabos, CPS, Rev. Dante Turri, CPS, and Rev. Vito Cannizzo, CPS. In 1953, Father Zanotti returned after an absence of many years and once again assumed the duties of Rector.

The present Rector is the Reverend Dominic A. Ruscetta, CPS, having been assigned to the parish in 1958.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM

The First Baptist Church of Agawam has its roots in the earliest, vigorous years of this country. The sturdy, deeply religious men and women who settled Springfield in 1635, came from Roxbury. As the population grew, it spread, and in 1695, the "First Parish of West Springfield" was established, and the records say that "for 40 years they were called together by the sound of a drum."

In 1757, Agawam became a distinct parish. One of the first recorded acts of the congregation was to ask for "boards and shingles for the Lord's House." The new building was dedicated in 1760 and apparently accommodated worshippers in all faiths. Names subscribed to the covenant of this early Church include the Bancroft, Bodurtha, Palmer, Purchase, Porter, and Worthington families, names still familiar in the Church and community. In 1790, the Baptist Church of West Springfield was organized.

For 31 years, the new Church shared a building with the Congregationalists with a record of very friendly relations, but in 1830 the Baptist members voted to build their own meeting house. It seemed a "monumental task" but they refused discouragement. They proceeded to raise funds to complete the new structure. Money, materials and labor "were freely donated." Occasionally funds and materials ran out, but not for long. "Soon the song of the hammer was heard again." This heroic achievement

resulted in the present building — the main sanctuary. In 1901, the Church building was remodeled, the auditorium enlarged, the chapel moved and two rooms added. A year later, a pipe organ valued at \$1200, was installed. In 1924, further improvements, including hardwood floors were made, and in 1925–26 the Fellowship House was built. In 1955, the Religious Education Building, Worthington Hall, was dedicated. Plans are now being made to expand the Sanctuary and add to the facilities for greater service to the community.

Rev. Benjamin T. Lockhart has been Pastor of the Church since 1951.

### AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Agawam Center was a part of the Sixth Parish, which built the meetinghouse on Mill Street in 1760. In 1799, plans were made for two meetinghouses and in 1800 the Parish (which had become the Second of West Springfield) was legally divided. Feeding Hills, the new Fourth Parish, bought all rights to the meetinghouse and moved it to the site of the present Methodist Church. The area east of the Parish line continued as the Second Parish.

A group in this Second Parish bought the frame of a meetinghouse and moved it from Suffield to the green at Agawam Center, the site about 100 feet west of the present location. Completed and dedicated in 1803, the building was used jointly by Baptists and Congregationalists until 1830 when the Agawam Congregational Society bought all rights from the Baptists. The Society continued to hold property and transact business until the church was incorporated by act of Legislature in 1892.

The original bell frame was replaced by a steeple in 1833 and in 1845 the building was moved to its present site. A parsonage, built on Main Street in 1844, was sold after 100 years of use. A chapel was added to the church in 1868.

Continued expansion in membership has necessitated many changes since the day of tallow candles and hand-powered pipe organ. Among them are the addition of a Parish room, a modern kitchen, Church School rooms, the purchase of additional land and the building of a new parsonage. Besides the many busy officers and committees required today, there are several organizations contributing to the life of the church

— The Ladies Aid, Merriweds, Friendly Workers, Two Pilgrim Fellowship groups for young people, a Boy Scout troop, Missionary Committee, a Library, four Choir groups and a Bell Choir.

Beginning with a membership of 13 in 1819, the church has grown to a membership of over 600 active members plus 130 listed as inactive and a Church School of over 300. The present pastor is the Rev. Floyd C. Bryan.

### FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Congregational Church in Feeding Hills was organized November 10, 1762, as the Sixth Congregational Church of Springfield.

In 1774, when the Town of West Springfield was organized, the name was changed to the Second Church of West Springfield. In 1855, at the Incorporation of the Town of Agawam, the name was again changed and become the First Congregational Church of Agawam, but has always been more commonly known as the Feeding Hills Congregational Church and was incorporated as such May 28, 1952.

The First Meeting House was built in 1760 on the East edges of the Plains on the land of Ensign Reuben Leonard and at the head of the first branch of the three mile brook about a mile above the saw mill. This building accommodated all worshippers, regardless of creed, who lived in the Parish.

In 1800, the Parish was divided at a ditch separating the inner from the outer commons. That part west of the line was called by its old name Feeding Hills with the part east of it keeping its old name, Agawam.

The meeting house was torn down and rebuilt on ground a few rods south of the four corners in Feeding Hills on land now occupied by the Lay Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Congregationalists and Baptists occupied the church and later the Methodist society was formed.

In 1834, the present Meeting House was built north of the Feeding Hills Center. The original building has been remodeled and additions erected so that today it is an up-to-date church and social center.

The present pastor Rev. Arthur N. Sweeney began his ministry in September, 1963.

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